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LITERATURE

Five Fair Sisters: an Italian Episode at the Court of Louis XIV. By H. Noel Williams. (Hutchinson & Co.)

MR. NOEL WILLIAMS has by this time some considerable experience in the writing of French historical biography. He usually handles his material with judgment, and contrives to weave out of it a narrative that is pleasant to read, being free from any attempt at fine writing or pandering to the taste for sensation, whilst showing a due sense of romance and the picturesque. His relation of the careers of the "Mazarinettes"—Cardinal Mazarin's nieces of the Mancini family—is a very fair sample of his work, though the sub-title does not strike us as particularly happy. He does not affect to have made any additions to historical knowledge, and shows no great fondness for discussing problems or unravelling mysteries; but the facts are stated fairly, and, as a rule, fully enough for the general reader.

Mazarin himself appears in the book in a rather more favourable light than we have been accustomed to see him. He is the heavily tasked Minister of State, subordinating his private ambitions to his public responsibilities, eager for the advancement of his family, but sternly refusing to accomplish this at the expense of presumed interests of the State. We get scarcely a hint of the monstrous avarice and meanness which Arvède Barine and so many others have dwelt upon; indeed, one finds his nieces not infrequently cajoling money out of the Cardinal, who never, moreover, seems to have been so shortsighted as to spare expense where important results were to be achieved. Somewhat unnecessarily, as it seems to us, the author varies his accustomed practice by devoting several

pages to a discussion of that apparently insoluble problem, the exact relation between Mazarin and Anne of Austria. He reaches, as one would have expected, no very definite result; nor was it necessary that he should.

The strength of Mazarin's position and his perfect understanding with the Queen-Mother were signally exhibited in his frustration of the young Louis's passionately desired marriage with Marie Mancini, the ablest and most amiable of the "Fair Sisters," though not the most beautiful. There can be no doubt that the King was, for perhaps the only time in his life, really in love. Even his mother appeared to have failed to shake his resolution to contract an alliance which, apart from all else, would have shattered the darling scheme of herself and the Cardinal for terminating the differences between the two great Bourbon powers. Mazarin's appeals to Louis's regard for the public interest (which was also, of course, his own), backed as they were by a threat to withdraw with his relatives to Italy, would probably not have been sufficient to secure the conclusion of the Spanish marriage, without the very stringent measures which he took to bring pressure to bear upon his niece. What was the ultimately deciding factor is not altogether clear; but it was probably the influence of Anne of Austria as *mère de famille*, helped by the discreditable rôle played by Olympe Mancini, prompted by her uncle and the Queen-Mother. The Cardinal, on his side, seems to have been more potent as the vigorous upholder of his powers as head of a family than as the wielder of ministerial influence. Apart however, from his obviously genuine devotion, not only to what he conceived to be his master's interests, but also to his person, it is clear that Mazarin's opposition to the Mancini match was due in some measure to the perception that the influence which Marie might exercise as Queen of France would in all probability be to his own detriment. He had no mind to be deprived of power in his last years by one of the least-loved members of his own family.

The subsequent history of Marie Mancini was romantic enough to be the talk of Europe, but had no important bearing upon public affairs. It is bound up for some little time with that of her favourite sister Hortense, whom she received in Italy when the beautiful young duchess fled thither from her half-mad husband the Duc de Mazarin. Though forced into her own marriage with the Constable of Naples, Marie was for some years comparatively happy with him. Yet she seems never to have felt at home in the land of her birth or to have ceased to long for France. Though Colonna may not have actually desired, as she suspected, to poison her, his subsequent conduct certainly showed him as a relentless, if polite persecutor. The flight of Marie and Hortense to France in a semi-piratical felucca reads like an incident in a *conte* from 'Don Quixote,' to whose country the former made her way when unable to

obtain from her quondam lover aught but presents of money and permission to reside in convents at safe distances from his Court. To do him justice, however, Louis did steadfastly resist considerable pressure from the papal authorities, applied with the view of obtaining her surrender to her husband.

There is an element of the grotesque in the Spanish period of Marie's chequered career. The unfortunate lady passed much of her time in escaping from convents and obtaining the exercise of royal authority to get herself received back into them under pressure of her husband's representatives. A whimsical passage from the memoirs of Madame d'Aulnoy recounts how the Spanish king (Carlos II.) on one of these occasions was threatened with a deputation of protesting nuns, and looked forward with amusement to a procession chanting "Libera nos, Domine, de la Condestable." Finally, Colonna, now Viceroy of Aragon, having failed in his attempt to have his wife permanently detained in a fortress, and likewise to get her to take the veil in sober earnest whilst he himself became a monk in name only, consented to allow her liberty. In 1703 she paid a final visit to France, and was even invited to Versailles, but for some reason declined the invitation, and went to Italy to pass her last years. "Marie Mancini Colonna, ashes and dust," is inscribed on her tomb at Pisa.

Hortense, Duchesse de Mazarin, the most beautiful of the five sisters and her uncle's chief favourite and heiress, sought refuge from her husband, first in Savoy, and afterwards in England, whither, some hold, she came as an intending rival to the Duchess of Portsmouth. However that may have been, she obtained a pension from Charles II. (whose hand before his accession had been denied her by Mazarin); and it was renewed not only by his successor, but also by William III. Waller sang her praises, and Saint-Evremond was her most devoted and extravagant admirer. La Fontaine, though especially attached to the service of her youngest sister, Marianne, Duchesse de Bouillon, wrote verses lauding the grace, beauty, and wit of Hortense, for whom England, he said, disputed with France.

The most prominent of the other sisters was Olympe, Comtesse de Soissons. She came to France as a child with a brother and an elder sister, Laura, who married the Duc de Mercœur and had a short but happy life. Olympe was brought up with the young Louis XIV., and was probably one of his earliest mistresses. She entered readily into the designs of her uncle and Anne of Austria for inflaming her former lover's mind against her sister Marie, but never recovered her own influence over him. She was the inspirer of similar unscrupulous, but less successful intrigues against La Vallière, and was accused by the notorious La Voisin of asking for her assistance in order to poison both that lady and the King. Mr. Williams decides that it was "highly improbable" that the countess

actually attempted the crime, and she certainly had, as he says, powerful enemies; but the lady was of a nature that was not incapable of such designs, and she came, it is to be remembered, from the land where toxicology was studied for very definite purposes. On the other hand, Saint-Simon's charge against the exiled countess of subsequently poisoning the Queen of Spain may be unhesitatingly dismissed as groundless. Olympe was amply avenged upon Louis and France in the person of her son, Prince Eugene.

That Marianne, the inspirer of La Fontaine and writer of those charming rhymed epistles to her old uncle the Cardinal, should have been culpably involved in the poisoning scandals we are most reluctant to believe. Her crime was probably little more than feminine curiosity. At the same time her supple-ment in assisting her uncle and the *gouvernante*, Madame Venel, to spy upon her sister Marie, must be counted against her in our estimate of the character of the youngest Mancini sister.

Evidences of careless correction of the press in regard to dates occur in the early part of the book. References to authorities are seldom anything but general; "British Museum MSS.," as a foot-note giving the source of a letter of the Constableness Colonna to Charles II. of England, is, in particular, singularly inadequate. On the other hand, we are given a careful note, distinguishing Marie Mancini's autobiographical work, issued in Spain, 'La Vérité dans son Jour,' from Brémont's compilation and the apocryphal 'Mémoires' published at Cologne in 1676. The author's English is usually pure, but he twice writes "put the *combe* upon," and he uses the vulgarism "happenings." There are serious omissions from the Index, the absence of the name of the Marquis de los Balbases, represented in the text as a malignant enemy of the Constableness Colonna, being especially noteworthy. There are something like a score of portraits, which are well reproduced.

George Buchanan: a Biography. By G. D. Macmillan, D.D. (Edinburgh, G. A. Morton; London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)

AN excuse for the present work is afforded by the quatercentenary of the great Humanist, who was born in February, 1506. A still fairer justification is that the author, as in his 'Life of Knox,' has been successful in the presentment of his subject in a brief and popular form. He is frank in his admission that his book is based largely on that of Dr. Hume Brown, whose happy renderings of several of Buchanan's Latin poems enlighten this narrative. It is avowedly intended to supplement the life projected by the late Robert Wallace, M.P., and may be said to mitigate, at any rate, our regret for the loss of that bright intelligence.

The author begins with a little genealogy

—in Buchanan's case more important than usual. His father was a Celt and his mother a Teuton. The *præfervidum ingenium* was balanced by tenacity. Dr. Macmillan, himself of a kindred sept, touches on the fact that his subject on the Highlands side was descended from Murdoch, Duke of Albany, and Isobel, heiress of Lennox. Murdoch, be it remembered, was executed by his cousin James I. in the course of that great clearance which left so many bitter memories behind. When Buchanan called his pupil James "a true bird of the bloody nest to which he belonged," it is likely that he was referring to older grudges than the murder of Darnley. In that age and country it was impossible to rise above the clannish point of view, even for the cultured and the "godly," though our author would minimize his hero's partisanship.

In the first chapter it is pointed out that "elementary and secondary education was much more widely spread and advanced before the Reformation than is generally supposed.... it was the Roman Church that established the schools and universities of Scotland." Buchanan was well equipped before, at the age of fourteen, he was launched in the University of Paris. A short and popular, but not insufficient account is provided of the antagonism between scholasticism and the new learning, and soon after between Romanism and the new religion, as presented at Paris to the young product of the Middle Ages.

The description of university life at the time, with its Chancellor and Rector, its "regents" or tutors, and its division into "nations," will be found interesting. The author has an eye for good scenes, as witness the "interiors" he reproduces, the symposium at Archbishop Gavin Dunbar's, and the reading of "somewhat of Lyvie" by the old scholar and young queen. In 1529 Buchanan was elected procurator of "the German nation" when he was regent at St. Barbe, a testimony to his popularity as well as distinction. His early studies at Paris had been cut short by his uncle's death, and it is notable that before his course at St. Andrews and subsequent return to Paris he had a glimpse of soldiering. The expedition of Albany in 1523 was half-hearted and unfortunate, but Buchanan seems to have had some aptitude for the art military, and acquired a knowledge which stood him in good stead as an historian. In his dedication of his 'Jephthes' to Marshal Brissac he emphasized the concord that should exist between war and letters.

That portion of the biography which treats of Buchanan as the famous teacher and humanist is excellently done. We see with respect his rejection, from disinterested motives, of a profession which would have enabled him to cultivate his special talent; his courage in opposition to the corruptions of the time; and the philosophy which enabled him to compose his Latin version of the Psalms in the cell of a Portuguese monastery.

The author is amusingly cautious in

giving his own opinion on the retention of classics in our days, but is enthusiastic in his approbation of Buchanan's Latinity. There is no doubt the poems obtained the applause of all the learned in his own day; and in spite of some lapses, like the false quantity in the first stanza of the beautiful ode on May, they must be read with pleasure by modern scholars. Like the author, we are inclined to James Hannay's estimate rather than Prof. Saintsbury's. But Hallam has given the preference to Johnston's translation of the Psalms. It is worth more consideration than might be imagined from Lauder's tiresome panegyric, and Dr. Macmillan might at any rate have given the Aberdonian his right name. He has evidently never read Johnston's eulogy of his father's ancient seat on the banks of the Ury:—

gens hæc Jonstonia lymphas
Arvaque per centum missa tuetur avos.

Buchanan's fame as a satirist emerged during his engagement as tutor to the young Earl of Cassilis, who is lauded in his history as a Regulus when he returned to England after Solway Moss, but is more than suspected of being in the pay of Henry VIII. The 'Somnium' is a free translation from Dunbar, who has also the honour of being in several instances the precursor of Burns. But Buchanan had weapons of his own: sometimes an exquisite rapier, more commonly, after the manner of his age, a club. In the previous generation satire was aptly known as "flying." As our author observes, there are indications of playfulness; these grim polemics were not all ungenial. Thus:—

Illa mihi semper præsentî dura Neæra
Me, quoties absum, semper abesse dolet,
Non desiderio nostri, non moret amore,
Sed se non nostro posse dolore frui.

Of the dramas, the 'Jephthes' has been held to be Miltonic in its elevation; the 'Baptistes,' bringing in contemporary figures in a thin disguise, is interesting as indicative of the political bent of the author of the 'Jus Regni apud Scotos.' This famous piece of prose was in the next century coupled with Mariana's by English "malignants":—

A Scot and Jesuit, hand in hand,
First taught the world to say
That subjects ought to have command
And monarchs to obey.

But Scotland, from Dalriad days, was a "very limited monarchy." For the rest, the author is more enthusiastic for the Psalms, and less appreciative of the ethical value of 'The Sphere,' Buchanan's own favourite poem, than we should be inclined to be. His odes, including the classical passage in that on Mary's marriage with the Dauphin, seem to us his best verse. The 'History' is eloquent and trenchant, according to the lights of his day. For the reigns of James IV. and V. it is also valuable for accuracy. Its view of Mary will never be convincing, being the expansion of the 'Detectio' and 'The Book of Articles.' Our author evidently believes the elastic story with all its variants. With him

we cannot think that the high-minded Reformer and Humanist, in spite of much rancour exhibited in his politics and polemics, could be guilty of forgery, as Maitland might have been, or many another expert "in the Roman hand." But the professional panegyrist may also be the professional "pursuer"; the *moladh* and the *di-moladh*, the praise and dispraise, of the same person are common-places of the Celtic muse. We imagine that Buchanan took his facts from Lennox and others, gave his own "artistic merit" to his narrative, and was not much more scrupulous than other partisans on both sides of a deadly conflict. He was getting "sleiprie and cairles," according to Melville, but his zeal for the cause still smouldered. When his cousin told him on his death-bed that some parts of his history would offend the king, "'Tell me, man, giff I have tauld the truth?' 'Yis,' says Mr. Thomas, 'sir, I think sa.' 'I will byde his feud, and all his kin's, then,' quoth he. 'Pray, pray to God for me, and let Him direct all.'" We think the point of this query, and the dying man's reception of the answer, more suggestive than our author has recognized. Yet Buchanan stands as Scotland's greatest figure in literature for more than two centuries. No better representative of Scottish learning than Dr. Flint could have been selected for a happy dedication.

Northamptonshire Families. Edited by Oswald Barron, F.S.A. (Constable & Co.)

THE first of the special genealogical volumes of the "Victoria County History" scheme has now been issued. It marks a new and most wholesome departure in the way of genealogical research and accurate heraldry, and cannot fail to be welcomed by those who prefer honest facts to a blend of myth and semi-fiction. Let no attempt be made to stamp out any of the picturesque series of tales that adorn the usually received narratives of the dawn of many old families. They have an interest and a value of their own; and though a foolish strain of pomp and pride may have had no small share in their birth, the fact that the best of them go back to at least Elizabethan days entitles them to respect; but it should be remembered that they have no right to a place in sober history.

This volume proves, however, once again that historic statements can be as curious and as entertaining as the fabled tales of earlier days. Take but two instances of this from Northamptonshire families.

At the age of nine years a wife was found for Henry Fitz-Roy, the son of Charles II. by Barbara Villiers. The bride, who was but five years old, was Isabella Bennet, only child of the Earl of Arlington and heir of a considerable estate. This was no mere betrothal of children, but a downright marriage, performed by Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, before all the *grandeas* of the Court. Within a

month the boy bridegroom was created Earl of Euston, a title taken from his child-wife's estates, and by the time he was twelve he was advanced to the dignity of Duke of Grafton.

Charles Willes, the third son of Chief Justice Willes, of Astrop, became, by the appointment of his uncle the bishop, prebendary and chancellor of Wells, and a pluralist rector in Somerset and Warwickshire. He was close-fisted and opposed to any kind of display, and Mr. Barron assures us that his life yields nothing more interesting than the directions in his will (1791) for his burying, which was to be done

"in the most private and cheap manner. . . . if I die with my coat, waistcoat, breeches, boots or shoes on me, that my executrix will be at the expense of paying the penalty for my being buried in such cloaths as I shall die in, and that I may on no account be stripped of them, or that my body be pulled about to be what the nurses call laying out. But if I die in my bed with only my shirt on, then I desire to be buried in a woollen shroud, as is usually done."

Such a work as this, however, will be consulted, not to make an olla podrida of eccentricities of the well-born, but to learn the truth as to collateral branches and relationships of men of mark. In this respect the book is invaluable and thoroughly trustworthy, not a single entry being made except those that have been tested and established by sound evidence.

This most substantial volume of some 400 quarto pages, in addition to numerous pedigree sheets and plates of family portraits, follows on the lines marked out some years ago by Mr. Evelyn Shirley in his "Noble and Gentle Men of England." Mr. Shirley adopted the very severe test of including only those families whose ancestors had enjoyed a seat and family estate, in the male line, from a time before the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII. Under such a test as this, the landed gentry of the whole of England shrank to a total of 330 names. Very many of these have since lost estates and place, so that a new edition of that book, revised to date, would show a great falling off. The test, adopted here, after much consideration, by the committee of this scheme of pedigree volumes for each English county, is to set forth at large the genealogies of only those families whose long association with the shire has made them a part of its history. For such inclusion evidence is asked (1) of present possession of a freehold domain of such importance as to justify the use of the term "a seat and a landed estate"; and (2) of an ancestry in the male line on an estate in the county before the accession of George III. on 25 October, 1760. These conditions may not commend themselves to every one, but they are the outcome of no little care and investigation. The result in the county of Northampton is that only nineteen families are found to stand the test of this twofold qualification. They are: Cartwright of Aynhoe; Cecil, Marquess of Exeter; Dryden of Canons Ashby; Elwes of Billing Hill; Fane, Earl of Westmoreland; Fitz-Roy, Duke

of Grafton; Isham of Lamport; Knightley of Fawsley; Langham of Cottesbrooke; Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor; Palmer of Carlton; Powys, Lord Lilford; Robinson of Cranford; Rokeby of Arthingworth; Spencer, Earl Spencer; Thornton of Brockhall; Wake of Courteen Hall; Willes of Astrop; and Young of Orlingbury. Moreover, whilst this volume was going through the press, two of these families whose full genealogies are set forth have lost their qualification by the sale of their Northamptonshire estates, one of them being the sale of Apethorpe by the Earl of Westmoreland to Lord Brassey.

In each of these cases, in addition to outline sheet pedigrees, there is a brief general introduction, showing the rise and general fortune of the family, as well as an outlined account of the life of each individual, so far as it can possibly be ascertained. A coloured plate is given of the crest and arms of each family, and to this are added illustrations of the shields of the principal alliances of the direct ascendants of the present head of the family. These heraldic illustrations are admirable in their simple artistic feeling, and afford a delightful contrast both to the ordinary stiffness of heraldic stationery and to the exuberant riot of mantling and extravagant adornment that has of late been copied from inferior German embellishments. The claim is made, and amply substantiated, that these heraldic drawings follow "as a model the simple blazonry of the Middle Ages."

Another attractive feature is the series of family portraits reproduced by good processes. Northamptonshire is particularly fortunate in this respect, for in several cases, as at Althorpe, Apethorpe, Burghley, and Fawsley, great artists were found in the past to paint leading historical characters.

It must not, however, be supposed that the attention of this work is solely confined to the nineteen families just enumerated and their alliances. In an interesting and comprehensive general sketch of the landed houses of Northamptonshire, some account, illustrated with their shields of arms, is given of those other families who, being now at home on their Northamptonshire lands, have been shut out, for various reasons, from the detailed separate histories. Such are the families of Bouverie, Howard-Vyse, Tryon, Mackworth-Dolben, Fermor-Hesketh, &c., and more especially Stopford-Sackville of Drayton House. The Marquess of Northampton, whose chief seat is at Castle Ashby, will be found in the Warwickshire volume under Compton-Wynnyates, the ancient home of the Comptons.

Admirable as this volume is as a whole, it is not flawless. In the genealogy of the Cary-Elwes family, as well as in the pedigree sheets, the name of "Bernard" of Bigby, Lincolnshire, is several times set forth among the alliances: it should read *Barnard*. Again, in the arms of Isham of Lamport the three waved piles ought to be carried down to the foot of the shield, instead of stopping short above the waved

fesse athwart the centre of the shield; at all events, this is the older form, which it would have been wiser to follow.

It is to be hoped that another decided blemish, the absence of an index, will not be repeated in future volumes of this genealogical series.

The Development of Palestine Exploration.
By F. J. Bliss, Ph.D. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre. By the late Major-General Sir C. W. Wilson. Edited by Col. Sir C. M. Watson. (Palestine Exploration Fund.)

DR. BLISS refers more than once to the "pilgrim's coma," "the pious coma which appears to be an invariable condition of pilgrimage pure and simple." A somewhat similar obfuscation comes over most of us, whether we are pious or not, whenever we open a book on Palestine Exploration. The subject—or is it the treatment?—is usually ineffably dull. It ought not to be so, of course. Dean Stanley showed how the historical and religious imagination could weave poetry about the sites of Holy Writ; but Dean Stanley was not a Palestine explorer. Very few others have brought to the subject that "vision" without which not only "the people," but (mercifully) books also "perish." The lamentable fact is that, with a few notable exceptions, exploration in the Holy Land has been singularly barren. It has been centred on the identification of sites, not, as in Egypt, on the recovery of departed civilization by archaeological research. We do not dispute the value of identifying Biblical sites, though for religious purposes and "pilgrim's coma" the traditional identifications answered the purpose well enough for a good many centuries, and, indeed, do so still to spiritual imaginations such as Lady Butler's. To the devout mind all the Holy Land is sanctified by the footprints of the Lord, and whether one particular group of mud hovels or another represents a definite site is a matter of small moment. The eye of faith reconstructs the picture out of any materials. That was the point of view of the numerous pilgrims whose records form the subject of a large part of this volume. They were not critical, they enjoyed their coma as a Muslim loves his *keyf*, they took their sites as tradition gave them, without question.

From the days when Moses sent out his reconnaissance from Kadesh Barnea to the never-to-be-forgotten epoch when the German Emperor viewed the Holy Places, freshly gilt and varnished in token of the condescension, pilgrims, explorers, and writers on Palestine have formed an almost unbroken chain. Dr. Bliss does not tell us all about the 3,515 writers on the Holy Land recorded in Röhrich's 'Bibliotheca Geographica Palæstina,' for which we are grateful. He selects the most interesting and most important from his special point of view, and tells us

just enough about them to fix their place in the history of exploration and to make the reader wish for more. Dr. Bliss's own practical and scientific experience in the excavations at Lachish and Jerusalem justifies him in assuming the rôle of a pilgrim's cicerone. He really knows the Holy Land, and has minutely studied the records of most of his predecessors, largely, of course, in the delightful publications of the Palestine Pilgrims Text Society and the serious records of the Palestine Exploration Fund. We confess we like those early and mediæval investigators a great deal better than the modern tourist. Happy indeed were the Roman ladies who found so excellent and sympathetic a guide as St. Jerome, the Thomas Cook of early Palestine circular tours. The good saint himself wrote the narrative of Paula's pilgrimage, and did it, as became a cicerone, "in a breezy and popular manner," quite different from his Vulgate, so infinite was his variety. Paula and her daughter write of Bethlehem as poets see it:—

"In the village of Christ all is rusticity and, except of psalms, silence. Whithersoever you turn yourself, the plowman holding the plow-handle sings Alleluia; the perspiring reaper diverts himself with psalms; and the vine-dresser sings some of the songs of David while he trims the vine with his curved knife. These are the ballads of this country, these are the love-songs, as they are commonly called; these are whistled by the shepherds and are the implement of the husbandmen. Indeed, we do not think of what we are doing, or of how we look, but see only that for which we are longing."

Compare this beatific vision with the modern explorer grovelling among potsherds in search of a Mycenaean pattern! Not that Prof. Petrie's "pottery-key" is anything but a valuable check on chronological inexactitude, though we are glad to observe that Dr. Bliss, who employed it most successfully at Tell el-Hesi, delivers some necessary cautions as to the limitations of the pottery evidence. But modern explorers have neither the faith nor the supernal experiences of the mediæval pilgrims. Sæwulf declares that the precious spices with which the bodies of the patriarchs at Hebron were anointed "still fill the nostrils of those who go thence." No such aroma invades the archaeological nose, and the charitable contempt which prompts the comment "sancta simplicitas" is a poor substitute. Holy scents, like sacred relics, are not for the normal twentieth-century explorer.

Dr. Bliss's object is not to show the present position of Palestine identification of sites or results of excavation, but to sketch in outline the general scope and character of the principal travellers and explorers. His lectures—for the book is an amplification of the Ely Lectures of 1903, delivered at the Union Theological Seminary, New York—will probably tempt a few readers to dive further into the records he cites but too briefly. His tone is scholarly, and his criticism remarkably just and well balanced. He is not

afraid to indicate the limitations of Edward Robinson, the George Washington of American Palestine exploration, whilst fully appreciating his undoubted services, his endurance, his candour, and his judgment. Dr. Bliss rightly emphasizes Robinson's spirit of scientific scepticism, but points out that he was unduly contemptuous of tradition, and that his attitude towards the "mummeries" of the Easter ceremonies at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was so prejudiced that he "never visited the place again." "Here speaks the Puritan, not the explorer," boldly (for an American speaking to Americans) says Dr. Bliss, and it is cited as one of Robinson's "lapses from a calm and scientific temper." Full justice is paid to the labours of the Palestine Exploration Fund's explorers, and we are glad to see that Col. Conder, whose long and brilliant work in the Holy Land has to some extent been overshadowed by his fondness for hazardous excursions into philological and epigraphic wildernesses, here receives his due meed of admiration. The final chapter, on 'The Exploration of the Future,' is at once suggestive and cautious. Dr. Bliss gives some excellent advice to those who would pursue such investigations as he has himself conducted, but he declines to prophesy great results. He is disposed to think that discovery in Palestine will in future run in the somewhat narrow groove to which it has generally so far been limited, and will bring forth only small things. At the same time, as he says, there is always the chance:—

"Chance is your great discoverer. Chance found the Tell el-Amarna tablets. Chance found the Siloam inscription. Chance found the Map Mosaic of Madaba."

Whilst there remains chance there is cheer for the explorer.

In a future edition Dr. Bliss might correct some misprints (*e.g.*, Hectæus) and errors, especially in Arabic (*e.g.*, Nasir-i-Khusrau, Kula'at Kurein, the purely imaginary European plural Bedawin, the superfluous circumflex over Bir-es-Seba', and the omission of it in Yarmuk, Beka, and Yakût). He might also include in his notices of Mohammedan travels the visit to Jerusalem of Usâma b. Munkidh, whose biography has been voluminously and learnedly exploited by Prof. H. Derembourg.

There is a curious tendency in what is known as "the Protestant mind" to discredit traditional sites merely because they are traditional. It is part of a general revolt against authority. Of course, many traditions are founded upon error, and history and archaeology have made short work of not a few venerated sites. But in the absence of any proof to the contrary an early and continuous tradition is evidence that should not lightly be put aside. The site of the Holy Sepulchre and the rock of Calvary—for the two are interdependent—has long been a battle-field for the supporters of tradition and those who prefer any other guide. A hundred and seventy years ago Jonas

Korte led the attack on Constantine's site, and since his time the scene of the Crucifixion has been placed variously on all sides of Jerusalem, though most recent investigators agree that the site must lie somewhere on the plateau between the Kidron and the valley of Hinnom. Fergusson the architect, indeed, sitting in his study chair in Langham Place, dogmatically pronounced that the "Dome of the Rock" in the Harâm esh-Sherif was the Church of the Holy Sepulchre erected by Constantine the Great, and placed the site of Golgotha near the Golden Gate; but the discovery of the Madeba mosaic with its plan of Jerusalem put this contention out of court. But there are still "Gordon's tomb," "Conder's tomb," and "Skull Hill," in the neighbourhood of Jeremiah's Grotto outside the Damascus Gate, which are tenaciously defended as the true sites of the Sepulchre and Crucifixion. It was a valuable service—unhappily his last—that the late Sir Charles Wilson performed in submitting the whole of the evidence, historical, traditional, archaeological, and topographic, to a minute scrutiny. His intimate acquaintance with the ancient topography of Jerusalem, where the memory of his excavations is perpetuated in the name of "Wilson's Arch," made him a fit arbitrator between the various claimants, and his admirably balanced judgment and sound sense are evident in every page of this elaborate treatise. It reads like the summing-up of a complicated case by an able and impartial judge—and, like other summings-up, it pronounces no verdict.

It will be remembered that there is really nothing in the Bible by which the site of Golgotha can be identified, and no explanation of the name "place of a skull." There is no Biblical evidence that it was even on a hill, for it could equally be seen "from afar" if it were in a valley with the spectators on the enclosing slopes. The "green hill far away" of the late Mrs. Alexander's tender little hymn did not appear to any witness until in the fourth century the Bordeaux Pilgrim—visiting the Churches of the Resurrection and the Cross, the Anastasis and the Martyrion, then already in course of erection—speaks of the "Monticulus Golgotha." Why it was called the "place of a skull" is still uncertain. Sir Charles Wilson inclines to the view that it is derived from a Hebrew tradition, to which Origen refers, that Adam's skull was buried there. The notion that the name relates to a public place of execution by beheading appears to have originated with Jerome; but there are numerous grounds for rejecting it, apart from the extreme improbability of Joseph of Arimathea choosing such a place of ceremonial impurity for his garden and tomb. The explanation that the name sprang from a physical conformation of a rock supposed to resemble a skull finds, of course, plenty of analogies in other names for hills—if it were a hill; but the idea that it was a hill is late and of Western origin, and Sir C. Wilson denies that there is any feature that can be

compared with the various Kopfs and Koppes and Têtes of Europe: the Jerusalem rocks are not skull-shaped.

How, then, did Constantine and Macarius identify the sites of the Crucifixion and the Sepulchre? The natural explanation is that there must have been a continuous tradition on this point; and there is nothing in the history of Jerusalem after the return of the exiles from Pella to make the persistence of such a memory of the sites improbable. On the other hand, Sir Charles Wilson remarks that

"there is not in the works of any writer prior to the age of Constantine, so far as I am aware, the faintest shadow of a hint that the early Christians held the places of the Crucifixion and Burial in any special honour, that they offered prayers to God at them, or that they even knew where they were situated."

Brushing aside speculations as to the cause of this silence, the author lays stress upon the tomb of Joseph being apparently only a borrowed temporary resting-place pending a removal to the family tomb, such as all Jews wished to be buried in; but still more upon the fact that the early Christians were intent upon the living, not the dead—upon the risen Christ and the expectation of His immediate kingdom and the Last Day. In such a frame of mind the empty tomb could have little importance to them. Nevertheless, there is no reason why a tradition of its site and that of the Crucifixion should not have been preserved, even though the sites were not venerated; and it was probably upon some such tradition that Bishop Macarius relied when, at the command of Constantine, he made his search for the sites, and decided that Golgotha lay beneath the temple of Aphrodite, where presently Helena made excavations and discovered a rock-hewn tomb, forming part of an ancient Jewish cemetery, and assumed this tomb to be the Holy Sepulchre. The subsequent discovery of three crosses appeared to confirm the attribution, and "the rock was cut away so as to isolate the Tomb and Golgotha, and the Anastasis, or Church of the Resurrection, and the Martyrion, or Great Church of the Cross, were built." "The only possible conclusion," says Sir Charles Wilson,

"from a discussion of the literary evidence, seems to be that there is no decisive reason for placing Golgotha and the Tomb at the places which were accepted as genuine in the fourth century, and that there is no distinct proof that they were not so situated. Fortunately the question is purely archaeological, and its solution, one way or the other, does not affect any Christian dogma or article of faith."

If he is inconclusive in regard to the traditional site, he is decidedly opposed to the new sites advocated by Col. Conder and the late General Gordon. He concurs in Dr. Sanday's opinion that the arguments "are mere possibilities of coincidence of a vague and shadowy kind; and they are unsupported by even a particle of direct evidence." As for the resemblance of the so-called "Skull Hill"

to a human head, Sir Charles Wilson points out that the eastern spur was probably a continuous ridge at the time of the Crucifixion, and that the present knoll which is supposed to resemble a skull is due to the accumulations of a fourteenth-century Mohammedan cemetery. The site, moreover, is too far distant from the gate of the second wall, and "Gordon's Tomb" is probably part of a Christian cemetery, though Conder's is Jewish. A good deal turns upon the position of the second wall, upon which the author offers some important data. He has, of course, availed himself of the latest investigations of Dr. Bliss and Mr. Dickie.

The volume is edited with the loyal care of a friend and comrade by Sir Charles M. Watson, R.E., and is copiously illustrated by photographs, plans, coins, and an excellent portrait, in which the stern expression characteristic of the face will perhaps mislead those who did not know Wilson's generous nature. There are a few trifling misprints (as "coins" on pp. 49, 61, describing a single coin; "are" for *is* on p. 81, l. 17; "probably," p. 101); and in the next edition the bibliography ought to be completed by the addition of the dates of the works cited. The appendixes form a useful compendium of the whole literary evidence bearing upon the sites.

NEW NOVELS.

The Way of the Gods. By John Luther Long. (Macmillan & Co.)

In an introductory chapter, in which the author is supposed to carry on a conversation with an inquisitive Japanese god, Mr. Long finds serious fault with the critics of his books. He informs us that not only do critics refrain from reading the books which they criticize, but that they also approach them "temperamentally." This is certainly a very bad state of things; but might it not be worse? Has Mr. Long considered what the consequences would be if critics were to approach his books congenitally, or even gastronomically, as well as temperamentally? "The Way of the Gods" is the story of a Japanese soldier of the samurai caste who marries an eta, and thereupon necessarily becomes an eta himself—an eta being apparently something worse than a pariah. The soldier dies in exile, and his wife, disguising herself in his uniform, dies fighting bravely against the Russians. It is a rather pathetic story, and Mr. Long tells it in an unobjectionable way, although his efforts to write in a light and graceful style are somewhat obvious, and, to tell the truth, not a little elephantine. Still the book has good work in it, and is decidedly better than Mr. Long's preceding book, "Heimweh."

Set in Authority. By Sara Jeannette Duncan. (Constable & Co.)

MRS. COTES has given us of her best in this story of Indian life. The coterie of

aunts and cousins who send off the Liberal Indian Viceroy are highly amusing, both in their aspirations, so soulful and so vague, and in their disappointments, when Lord Thame has actually to lend himself upon the border. The dialogue and *dramatis personæ* are well fancied on the English side, and on the Indian we think no station with its inhabitants was ever reproduced more faithfully than Pilaghur.

The Sin of George Warrenner. By Marie Van Vorst. (Heinemann.)

GIVEN a woman brainless, heartless, and soulless, but endowed with physical beauty and a craving for wealth and luxury, and married to an honest and affectionate husband, only removed from the completely commonplace by abnormal weakness of character, how long will it take her to work out the ruin, social and moral, of both? Such is in brief the problem investigated here—a problem which has appealed to many novelists of various nations. It is a repulsive theme, and we cannot feel that anything in this author's treatment justifies its revival. The paltry nature of the wretched wife is certainly, at times, analyzed with considerable skill; but the utter degradation of the husband scarcely seems consistent with his previous record, and the (by no means shadowy) third is frankly a failure. Some of the details introduced, especially those referring to the heroine's invalid friend, are of anything but a pleasant kind.

The Young O'Briens. By the Author of 'Elizabeth's Children.' (John Lane.)

A FAMILY of undisciplined young people from the wilds of Ireland, thrust for many months upon the society of a Scotch spinster aunt in a squalid little house in London, suggests a situation which might well draw tears from a stone. It is possible that the narrative of their experience, which is told with much humour and not a little pathos, but at too great length, may draw tears from the sympathetic reader; but some of these should surely be spared for Miss Keziah, who, if more forbidding, is also called upon to be more long-suffering than the majority of maiden aunts. For the young O'Briens, from the twins who are nearly grown up to Sheila Pat, the impressive and pathetic atom, aged six, have the true Irish capacity for irresponsible mischief, and also for showing irresponsible hospitality to compatriots, who in London appear to be mainly cabbies and costermongers; and their methods of consolation for the desolating attacks of home-sickness with which they are perpetually assailed are as inconvenient as they are ingenious. The young people are, however, charming and healthy. The author is wise enough to keep them children, and to leave any future romance between Nell and her English friend to the imagination of the reader.

Vanity Square. By Edgar Saltus. (J. B. Lippincott Company.)

MR. SALTUS'S plot is not strikingly new. He introduces us to a rich and indolent New Yorker, who is supposed to represent the highest type of New York smart society. He has a wife with "vesuvian eyes," in spite of which he falls in love with a beautiful professional nurse with "starry eyes," whose remarkable name is "Miss Sixsmith." The nurse tries to poison the wife in order to marry the rich husband, but the wife, discovering the plot, runs away from her husband, who cannot understand the reason of her conduct, he not having mentioned his passion for Miss Sixsmith. His friend Mr. Yoda Jones (Mr. Saltus is evidently fond of peculiar names) hints to him that he is a poisoner, but he fails to understand him; and it is not until the family doctor openly accuses him of having attempted to murder his wife that he finally comprehends the situation. When he has explained his innocence his wife forgives him; Miss Sixsmith marries an English marquis, and everybody is happy. Mr. Saltus has a strange taste in adjectives, and invents words that are new to our dictionaries. For example, he writes of a woman who resembled "a rose chimerically fair," and of a man who committed "highwayry." He has yet to learn that this sort of thing does not constitute style.

EGYPTOLOGICAL BOOKS.

The Rock Tombs of El Amarna. Part III. By N. de G. Davies. (Egypt Exploration Fund.)—This, the fifteenth memoir of the Archaeological Survey, deals with the tombs of Huya and Ahmes in the heretic king's mushroom city of El Amarna. These are on the same model as those previously published (see *The Athenæum*, Nos. 3991 and 4066), and their chief interest lies in the means they give us of solving small historical problems, and of obtaining some insight into the daily life of the Egyptian Court under the Eighteenth Dynasty. Thus Mr. Davies makes it plain that Queen Thyi, the wife of Amenhotep III., did occupy a peculiarly exalted position at the Court of her son Khuenaten, and that she at least had no scruple about conforming publicly to the new faith. As Huya was her chamberlain as well as "favourite of the king," it may be that the official status of the queen mother is given rather undue preference on the walls of her tomb; but her attitude towards "the Doctrine" is in marked contrast to that of the king's sister Nezemut-Mut, and the naming of her own daughter Bekef-Aten shows plainly that she shared the king's devotion to the new object of his worship. For the rest, Mr. Davies will have nothing to do with the supposed identification of this Huya with the "Khua, my messenger," mentioned in one of the Tel el Amarna letters of Burnaburias, King of Kardunias (Babylon), and points out, following herein Prof. Steindorff, that this name would in the ordinary way be transliterated in Egyptian as Khay. Of Ahmes the scribe, whose tomb completes the volume, we know nothing whatever.

The pictures presented in the frescoes of the domestic life of Khuenaten are, however, extremely frank and detailed. The affection

which the Pharaoh is everywhere shown as exhibiting for his wife Nefertiti is displayed in the fact that even in the chariot the wife's arm is placed round the husband's waist, while his infant daughter regards the prancing horses with a distrust which her father's very *déjà-gé* method of driving can have done little to remove. In the royal banquets, of which many examples are here shown, full justice is done to the Pharaonic appetite, Khuenaten being depicted as gnawing a bone as long as his arm; while Huya as chamberlain is portrayed in the act of "tasting" an array of dishes formidable enough for a Lord Mayor's feast. The youthful princesses are in the same scene accommodated with low stools and tables, and frequently receive food from their parents' hands, though in the banquet which takes place by candlelight they are not allowed the use of wine. A careful study by Mr. Seymour de Ricci of the Greek graffiti that have been scribbled over the tombs by tourists in Alexandrian times is appended.

Catalogue of the Coptic Manuscripts in the British Museum. By W. E. Crum. (British Museum.)—The magnificent collection of Coptic MSS. in our national repository has at last received adequate treatment, and Sir Robert Douglas, the Keeper of Oriental Books, may be congratulated on his wisdom in entrusting the cataloguing of them to the capable hands of Mr. Crum. Their number has much increased of late, most of the Museum's acquisitions in this respect being due, as Mr. Crum tells us, to the energy of the present Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities, Dr. Budge. The catalogue divides them into the four dialects of Sahidic, Akhmimic, Middle Egyptian, and Bohairic, and the cross-divisions follow the arrangement of the other catalogues of MSS. in the British Museum by appearing as Biblical, Liturgical, Historical, Magical, and the like. Of the first class little is to be said, as the Biblical texts here given are merely fragmentary; a great many of them consist of single leaves, and most of them have been published elsewhere. Among the earlier liturgical fragments are some curious monastic rules, including one where the brethren are enjoined not to cross one leg over the other when sitting either alone or among other men, as do those of this world. There is also a sermon by Eusebius of Cæsarea on the Canaanitish woman, wherein woman is denounced as "the devil's chief weapon," and we are asked to admire the faith of the subject in seeking help where she did when "she might have gone to the magicians." There are also some others by the celebrated Shenoute that Mr. Crum confesses to be obscure, including one where the Manichæan heresy is denounced. In the historical section we find mostly the lives of saints and martyrs, generally garnished with miraculous and impossible details and fully bearing out the contention of certain scholars that the Coptic script was in the early centuries used almost exclusively by Christian converts, to whom the many mythological allusions of the hieroglyphic or its descendants were distasteful. The magical series is well represented in the first place by the 'Pistis Sophia,' or collection of Gnostic gospels which still waits a competent English editor, and then by a fair number of spells or charms indited by Christian Egyptians. Of these, one in a Fayum dialect came into the Museum with some Hebrew fragments from the Cairo Genizeh, and does not seem to have been yet published. It contains, besides the sacred monogram and names used in Jewish magic (such as Iao, Sabaoth, and Adonai and one apparently reading

italaska, and not heretofore met with), the old palindrome of "sator arepo tenet opera rotas," and appears to have been made for Sura, the daughter of Pelcha. A later one, which Mr. Crum thinks may be dated in the seventh or eighth century, though commencing with the Labarum, makes the magician declare himself, in true Egyptian fashion, to be "Maria" (or Mary), and to invoke the unseen Bainchooch (probably Hermes), Set-Typhon, and many other gods or demons of the "Gnostic" pantheon. Much more could be said on this subject, did space allow.

Coptic and Greek Texts of the Christian Period from Ostraka, &c. By H. R. Hall. (British Museum.)—These also are from documents in the national collections, being, for the most part, inscriptions on fragments of pottery which were used, in the scarcity of parchment or papyrus, for the scribbling of letters, receipts, and schoolboy exercises. Some of the letters are curious, such as the one where a certain Paul thanks Apa (Father) Kyrikos for his written permission to beat some persons who have "laid stick" on him, and then asks their names, as he is apparently ignorant of them. There is also a formal acknowledgment by a monk, probably on behalf of some monastery, witnessing that "we" are indebted to a camel-driver named Phoibamon for a solidus for his pay "till the time when God shall give it to us to give to him." Yet another appears to be a formal deed of exchange, abounding in (Greek) legal terms, relating to a cloak (*kalabi*: compare the modern *galabeeah*), purchased apparently by the cession of a melting pot. Among those printed are several epitaphs from grave-stones, which, as the editor remarks, show the survival of many distinctly pagan beliefs into Christian times. The same fact is attested by the proper names found throughout, which bear witness that, as late as the eighth century, nearly half the names in use among the lower class of natives remained Egyptian, and that even among ecclesiastics names suggesting either the Egyptian or Greek mythology, such as Amon, Apollo, and the like, were common. The work of transcription and translation, which the bad state of the texts must have often rendered very tedious, has been excellently performed by Mr. Hall; but it is curious that while the Catalogue noticed above gives the Coptic words in the handsome square type now generally adopted when possible, this volume, also a Museum publication, uses the old sprawling letters employed in the earliest Coptic founts, and copied from late and debased MSS. in the Bashmuric dialect.

Conférences faites au Musée Guimet. Par Émile Guimet. (Paris, Leroux.)—This little volume (one of the excellent "Bibliothèque de Vulgarisation" published by the museum which bears the name of the lecturer) contains the lectures delivered during the past year at the handsome building in the Avenue d'Iéna, which must have often caused the curators of other less-favoured nationalities to be consumed with envy. One of them is on the so-called "vocal" statue of Memnon, which M. Guimet has no trouble in showing to have been a colossus of Amenophis III., and to have no more to do with the Memnon whom Homer represents as fighting before Troy than with the Emperor Napoleon. But this text gives him the opportunity for a very agreeable and polished discourse in which he traces the Memnonian tradition from the time of Strabo, gives us the words of Philostratus on the point, brings in Julia Domna as one of the introducers of the Greek worship of the Egyptian God Serapis into Italy, and

concludes with some sensible remarks upon the prevalence of superstitions in all ages. The lecture is typical of many in the book, and as these discourses are delivered every Sunday throughout the season, and, after the usual French fashion, are open to all without payment or ticket, it is to be hoped that English visitors to Paris will be moved to attend them. As the French is as perfect as the information is sound, no easier or pleasanter way of acquiring knowledge from the lips of experts has yet been devised.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THAT much-liked member of the Bar, the late Mr. John George Witt, K.C., has left behind him just the sort of record that might have been expected. *Life in the Law* (Werner Laurie) is anecdotal, rather discursive, modest, and packed with downright sense. It bears a fairly close likeness to Sir John Hollams's 'Jottings of an Old Solicitor,' reviewed in *The Athenæum* of May 26th. Both books advocate legal reform, and the common points in their criticisms of the county-court system and the law of contract are so numerous as to form a substantial argument for change. But Mr. Witt is far more of a root-and-branch corrector of abuses than Sir John Hollams. He would substitute apprenticeship for the Bar examinations, abolish expert witnesses, and sweep away the Bankruptcy Act. At the same time he stands up stoutly for his profession, and scathingly describes the Land Transfer Office as "a big building run up at a huge expense in order that a pack of officials may try their raw hands at Government transfer of real property, and supersede the skill and wisdom of counsel and solicitors." You may agree or disagree with Mr. Witt, but you cannot refrain from admiring the robustness of his opinions. 'Life in the Law' will be chiefly read, however, for its stories and sketches of character. Here again Mr. Witt speaks out with decision, as in the estimate that of the judges pre-eminent when sitting at Nisi Prius during his experience of forty years, he would place "Sir Alexander Cockburn, Sir Robert Lush, Baron Huddleston, Sir Archibald Smith, and Sir Henry Lopes (Lord Ludlow) in the front rank; and I would certainly relegate Sir William Bovill and Sir John Duke Coleridge to the rear rank." It is curious to learn that the late Lord Chief Justice had a tendency to drop off to sleep even when he was Attorney-General. Some of Mr. Witt's anecdotes illustrate questions of legal propriety. Thus, after some highly sensible observations on the proper limits of cross-examination, he gives a striking instance of the effect of an excess of forbearance. The only witness in favour of a will was a solicitor who had been struck off the rolls. "I think, sir," said his cross-examiner, the late Mr. Searle, "you were at one time a solicitor." "Yes," replied the witness. "And you are not a solicitor now." "No," answered the witness, and down sat Searle. The jury naturally thought that the man had retired from his profession full of years and honours. It was not often that a witness got the better of Ballantine, but a veterinary surgeon certainly scored when asked to represent to the jury the noise made by a "roaring" horse. "No," said he, "you see that is not my business. Now if you will be the horse and make the noise, I, as veterinary surgeon, will determine whether you are a roarer or not." We need not rob Mr. Witt's vivacious little book of any more plums. But we must draw attention to the interesting chapter in which he describes various

emissaries from the Confederate States with whom, in one way or another, he made acquaintance. Of them Henry Hotze was a confirmed revolutionary with a most romantic career. There is human nature, too, in the remark of an article clerk who had charge of the witnesses in a celebrated case: "If I do not give these Alabama men liquor, they will desert; and if I give them all they want, they will be too drunk to give evidence." But, says Mr. Witt, he managed them splendidly.

Wesley and his Century: a Study in Spiritual Forces. By the Rev. W. H. Fitchett. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—Of the making of lives of Wesley there would appear to be no end. Last year we reviewed Mr. Green's valuable contribution to the history of the Wesleys, and Dr. Fitchett now turns from the study of 'How England saved Europe' to add his name to Wesley's biographers. It is evident that Wesleyans never tire of hearing or reading about their founder. This work of Dr. Fitchett's has already appeared in the pages of *The Methodist Times*, and now its publication in a separate form shows that there is still a demand for it. Dr. Fitchett in his introduction, 'Wesley's Place in History,' states:—

"If Wesley has achieved fame, he never intended it....and if he built up one of the greatest of modern Churches, and supplied a new starting-point to modern religious history, it was with an entire absence of conscious intention."

When he died in 1791

"his 'societies' in Great Britain numbered 76,000 members with 300 preachers. To-day, Methodism—taking its four great divisions in Great Britain, Canada, the United States, and Australia—has 49,000 ministers in its pulpits, and some 30,000,000 hearers in its pews. It has built 88,000 separate churches; it teaches in its schools every Sunday more than 8,000,000 children."

In Canada, out of a population of under six millions, nearly one million are Methodists; while in Australasia every ninth person belongs to Wesley's Church, and in the United States at the centenary celebration 4,000,000 were raised.

Dr. Fitchett considers that

"the compliments paid to Wesley are often mere blunders. He was not, as Buckle calls him, 'the first of ecclesiastical statesmen,'—a Leo X. in a Geneva gown. He did not possess 'the strongest mind of his century,' as Southey thought. Coleridge's oft-urged criticism is at least partly true, he had the logical, but not the philosophical mind."

There was no attempt on the part of Wesley to add a new truth to Christian knowledge; his aim was simply to teach, as he himself said, "the plain old religion of the Church of England." Christianity at the beginning of the eighteenth century Dr. Fitchett describes as "a circle of dead fibres," and "what Wesley did was to pour the mystic current of a divine life through the calcined soul of a nation, and so turn blackness into flame." Then he gives "Wesley's secret in brief":—

"It belongs first and last to the spiritual realm. The energy that thrilled in his look, that breathed from his presence, that made his life a flame and his voice a spell, stands, in the last analysis, in the category of spiritual forces."

Dr. Fitchett devotes considerable space to 'Wesley's Theory of the Church,' 'The Effective Doctrines of Methodism,' and 'A Year of Crisis,' when "Wesley was abandoned by his allies among the Anglican clergy, even his brother for the moment failing him."

"Wesley yet remained, in his own person and sympathies, stubbornly loyal to the Church. The spiritual movement of which he was now the sole head should not, if he could help it, drift into dissent. But the last ties that bound it to the

Church were being cut—on the side of the Church itself!"

Into this controversy it is not for us to enter, but one cannot fail to see how much the Established Church would have extended the number of its members and its powers of usefulness if Wesley and his followers had been retained.

Dr. Fitchett has collected his facts with great diligence and care, and deserves the thanks of all interested in Wesley. The volume is illustrated by a portrait reproduced from Romney's painting and by facsimiles from Wesley's letters and journals.

The Golden Book: Legends of Saints and Martyrs of the Church. Translations from Mediaeval Sources. By Mrs. Francis Alexander. (Nutt.)—The present book revives four books published in the seventeenth century, as appears from the original title-pages here given. One, however, is announced by its title-page as a new edition, and there is no information as to when it first appeared. The four parts of the translation therefore correspond to these four books. The first is a compilation of stories from the lives of the early monks and hermits of Egypt and the desert. The second is a similar collection of legends and narratives from the lives of Tuscan saints, followed by another from those of miscellaneous saints. The fourth part drops the anecdotic and legendary character. It is a selection of brief lives of saints, in the usual hagiological form.

Thus the main interest for the average reader will lie in the first three parts or books. They have the common seal of simplicity. Compiled they may have been in the sixteenth century; but the stories themselves bear in their whole style the evidence of an earlier source, and are fragrant of the ages of faith—ages when no Luther, no Renaissance, had arisen to perturb childlike confidence. Wonders are related not as wonders but as instructive and interesting natural events, adventures which might be expected to befall the spiritual traveller: to fall among demons is no more than to fall among bushrangers, to be succoured by angels no more than to be succoured by mounted police. It is the spirit of a gentle brotherhood, unworldly wisdom, and self-denial on which the narrator is intent; these other things are part of the vehicle, incidental, too unconsidered to invite or receive comment. The first two parts are those which chiefly display this primitive spirit; the others have more the tone and manner of dry conventional biography. The first breathes the spirit of the early Christian writers, the second of the thirteenth century. Yet, though simplicity is common to both, there is a difference; with the thirteenth century we feel that indescribable effluence of which the type and quintessence is the 'Fioretti.'

Perhaps it is more than the mere spirit of a century, more even than the spirit of St. Francis: perhaps it is only in the Italian mind that this spirit can receive so fascinating an incarnation. Here, it is when a thirteenth-century Italian takes up the pen that we become conscious of the arresting charm. It is more than simplicity; it is the unsmirched and virginal ingenuousness of an innocently confiding child—a Paradisal child, walking hand-in-hand with God, and prattling holy candours by the way. We have said "a thirteenth-century Italian," though Don Silvano Razzi may, for all we know, be as sixteenth-century as the edition of his book which is here translated. But his sources, at least, must surely have been of the thirteenth century, or near it. If these stories have not the peculiar fragrance of the 'Fioretti,' they have enough of a

kindred soul to suggest a distant relationship—enough to make them the most engaging part of the volume. For the charm of this unfretted, fraternally tender piety to the restlessly questioning modern mind, and for the homely wisdom often associated with its simplicity, the book is welcome and readable.

The translation is good and idiomatic, and excellently printed. But there seem to be a few inconsistencies in the rendering of proper names. Why has Alexander the Great a councillor so unknown to English scholars as "Efestione"? If "Alessandro" is rendered Alexander, why not "Efestione" Hephæstion?

The Heart of the Country. By Ford Madox Hueffer. (Alston Rivers.)—Stepping out from the crowded path of writers of fiction, Mr. Hueffer here dedicates himself to essays in descriptive impressionism. His 'Soul of London,' was an attempt to limn the great town in brief sketches, the clever superficiality and assertiveness of which deceived admirers into talk of Whistler and "nocturnes." In the near future we are promised another volume of the sort, and now we have 'The Heart of the Country,' a book which, for all its demerits, comes nearer to justifying its ambitious title than its metropolitan predecessor. A note explains that portions of the present work have appeared in *The Tribune*.

We gather that Mr. Hueffer has laid down a rule for himself in these descriptive essays: though the views he expresses may have been coloured by his reading, his attempt is to depict neither more nor less than "his personal view of his personal country-side." His idea is that for every man some place more than any other represents the real country. It is a plausible contention, and Mr. Hueffer puts it prettily. His apprehension is acute enough and tolerably sound. The trouble is that he brings wholly exotic and study- or salon-born theories and methods to bear upon such companions of our childhood as buttercups and traveller's joy. His preciosities of style and point of view are out of place here. Still 'The Heart of the Country' is well worth reading, for its chapters contain genuine records of impressions received at first hand in English rural surroundings. There may not be much fresh air about the author's chosen medium; but that his material came to him in the open we have not the smallest doubt. And for all those amateurs of the country for whom rustic life is a thing apart, like tapestries and old brasses, this is as pleasant an interpretation as their library catalogue is likely to furnish for a month or so. The opening paragraph strikes the key-note:—

"In the cigarette smoke, breathing the rich odours of ragouts that cloy the hunger, of verveine, of patchouli, beneath tall, steely blue mirrors, over crumpled napkins of an after-lunch in a French place of refection, an eloquent and persuasive friend with wide gestures was discoursing upon some plan that was to make for the rest of the company fame, fortune, rest, appetite, and the wherewithal to supply it—an engrossing plan that would render the Islands of the Blessed territory habitable for them almost as soon as they could reach the 'next street,' which, in most of our minds, is the Future."

Of course, we are not detained very long in so bilious an atmosphere as this, but, within a page or two, we have England described as, for all outsiders, "The Land of Pills." Later, however, we are pleased to read that

"your clever man of the world set down in the country is, as soon as he opens his eyes, confronted with an ignorance of his own that will at first render him infuriated with the ignorance that he meets all

round him. It will end, if his eyes remain open, in a modest disbelief in his own mental powers."

That is a sound and wholesome conclusion. And, indeed, there are many bright and pleasing thoughts here, besides some shrewd instances of penetration, and a pretty susceptibility to the wiles of unsmirched nature. 'The Soul of London' rather suggested that its author rated the townsman unduly high, from want of true comprehension of his country cousin's best attributes. But we have here clear contradictions of those suggestions, and some evidence of patient study of the man who follows the plough. Mr. Hueffer's view of what journalists and sociologists call the "rural exodus" is gloomy, but informing.

Sixty Years of Journalism: Anecdotes and Reminiscences. By H. Findlater Bussey. (Bristol, Arrowsmith.)—This little volume opens with the author's apprenticeship to journalism in 1844 at the unusually early age of thirteen, and from that time until recently, when he bade "a lasting adieu to press-work," he was, he tells us, "continually employed on newspapers in different parts of the kingdom, in the varying capacities of reporter, sub-editor, and editor."

Mr. Bussey refers to the heavy taxes upon newspapers in his early days, and tells us that in 1856, while manager of *The Sunderland Times and Shields Advocate*, he "entered into a contract with a paper manufacturer, for the quantity we then consumed in our two issues, at sevenpence halfpenny per pound." Mr. Alexander Sinclair, in his privately printed 'Fifty Years of Newspaper Life,' states that *The Glasgow Herald* paid in 1845 8½d. per lb.; in 1855, 7d.; while in 1897, when his book was written, the price of news paper was 1½d., being a farthing less than the old duty. Mr. Walter, of *The Times*, once stated in evidence that the three duties paid by that single property amounted to 180,000l. per annum.

In 1848 Mr. Bussey went to Brighton, and there remained until 1852. His first journey thither was an experience of third-class travelling by rail: the carriage had no covering, and resembled an ordinary coal truck, except that it had bare wooden seats. These parliamentary trains stopped at all stations, so that the journey occupied from three and a half to four hours. At Brighton he made the acquaintance of F. W. Robertson, and used to report his sermons for a French lady; and as he kept duplicates, he presented them to the committee of the fund opened for the benefit of the widow. Lady Byron occupied a seat not far from the pulpit, and after Robertson's death had his bust chiselled by a local sculptor. Among the lectures Mr. Bussey attended was one on electricity by an old contributor to this journal, Robert Hunt, of the School of Mines.

During the Franco-German War, at the request of Lord Glenesk, then Mr. Borthwick, he sent letters from Paris to *The Morning Post*; and he was also specially engaged in cabling to *The New York Herald* the latest telegrams and special reports that appeared each morning in *The Times* and *Daily News*. One morning one of the three cables then in use was broken, so that for several days there was a press of work, and the charge for each word rose to thirteen shillings,

"the two syllables *Times* and *News*, denoting the sources of origin, daily costing twenty-six shillings. One of my cablegrams, sent in the closest skeleton form, cost, I am told, between 400l. and 500l. But it was delightful to see how these scanty messages were inflated at the other end, one of, say, two hundred words often filling in *The New York Herald* two or three columns of type, a sufficient proof of journalistic skill and ingenuity."

Mr. Bussey has two stories about John Bright's allusion to Mr. Lowe and Mr. Horsman as resembling those personages who took refuge in the Cave of Adullam. In one of the London papers this was given in a somewhat hazy manner, and the manager of the paper referred to asked a veteran reporter connected with the establishment whether he thought the gentleman who had written that part of the speech understood Mr. Bright's reference. "Certainly," was the reply. "There is no man on the staff so ignorant that he has not read the 'Arabian Nights.'" The proprietor of one of our leading provincial papers was also "fogged by the quotation," and sent a note to the editor of another paper in the same city, asking "for the loan of a Delphin edition of Virgil, saying he had been all through Horace, and could find no reference to the cave of Adullam."

Subsequently Mr. Bussey "received, through the kindness of Mr. W. H. Mudford, the then editor of *The Standard*," an engagement on the annual staff of that paper, which he held—partly as reporter and partly as sub-editor of the evening publication—until his recent retirement. We wish him many years of health and happiness, and express the hope that he may find time to add yet another volume to his pleasant reminiscences. We have two suggestions to make: that in a new edition he would do well to add definite dates; and that many of his friends would be pleased to have his portrait to face the title.

John Siberch: Bibliographical Notes, 1886-1905. By Robert Bowes and G. J. Gray. (Cambridge, Macmillan & Bowes.)—This little volume, following the Galen, Bullock, Augustine, and Papyrus Geminus previously issued in facsimile, completes the specimens of each of the books printed by Siberch, the first Cambridge printer, so far as our present knowledge extends. Mr. Gray's monograph on Cambridge bindings contained a great deal of new information as to Siberch, and its publication led Mr. Bowes to continue and perfect some work done twenty years ago on the subject. Besides the peculiar interest of Siberch to Cambridge men, this book throws some light on the ways of early printers, and the facsimiles it contains enable us to trace the origin of his initials and type, some of it coming from Wynkyn de Worde and Pynson. The authors "have by their research notably added to our knowledge of Siberch, and as the book is limited to 125 copies, it should be obtained without delay by all libraries interested in bibliography."

Of the books dealing with Tibet as the outcome of Sir Francis Younghusband's expedition Col. Waddell's *Lhasa and its Mysteries* was not the least interesting or valuable. We reviewed it at considerable length on April 8th, 1905, and we need only say of the cheap edition which Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just published that it should now succeed with a much wider public. All the illustrations (some 155 in number) in the expensive edition are retained in the present reprint.

Les Pierres d'Oxford. Par Georges Grappe. (Paris, Sansot & Cie.)—This little volume is neither a guide-book nor a history in brief. Rather it is the attempt of a cultured and sympathetic foreigner to define and explain to his countrymen the *religio loci* with which Oxford, most perhaps of all English cities, is invested. Indeed, a more appropriate title than the one selected would have been 'The Soul of Oxford.' M. Grappe writes with all the grace and lucidity which one instinctively looks for in the best French,

and if he makes occasional mistakes of detail, as when he speaks of "Eton or of any other public house," his exegesis in most essential matters is unquestionably right. He is particularly happy in pointing out the nuances of feeling which distinguish the members of different colleges. There is, however, rather an unusual number of misprints.

MESSRS. R. TUCK & SONS have sent us several packets of *Pictorial Post Cards*, which they are producing in wonderful variety and profusion.—From the Cornubian Press we have received some *Cornubian Post Cards*, which present attractive views of the Cornish country executed in a style more artistic than usual, and should be popular with visitors.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Ascent of Mount Carmel, by St. John of the Cross, translated by D. Lewis, New Edition, 7/6 net.
Chadwick (W. E.), *The Social Teaching of St. Paul*, 3/6 net.
Commonsense Christianity, 6d. net.
Drysdaile (A. H.), *The Epistle of St. Paul to Philemon*, 2/ net.
Ingram (Bishop A. F. W.), *A Mission of the Spirit*, 2/6 net.
Old Soho Days, and other Memories, by the Mother Kate, 2/6 net.
Sankey (Ira D.), *My Life and Sacred Songs*, 5/ net.
Thornton (J.), *From the Porch to the Altar*, 2/6 net.

Laws.

- Trial of Eugène Marie Chantrelle, edited by A. Duncan Smith, 5/ net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Fildes (Amy F.), *Brush-Drawing*, 5/ net.
Graves (A.), *The Royal Academy*, Vol. VI., 42/ net.
London Topographical Record, Vol. III.
Melandra Castle, being the Report of the Manchester Branch of the Classical Association for 1905, edited by R. S. Conway, 5/ net.

Poetry and Drama.

- Browning Treasure Book, Extracts selected by A. M. Warburton, 2/6 net.
Early English Dramatists, edited by J. S. Farmer: *The Dramatic Writings of Uplian Fulwell; The Proverbs, Epigrams, and Miscellanies of John Heywood.* (Printed for Subscribers.)
Elliott (Hon. F.), *The Trustworthiness of Border Ballads*, 10/6 net.
English History in Verse, edited by E. Pertwee, 1/ net.
Ford (John), *The Broken Heart*, edited by O. Smeaton, 1/ net.
Kingstead (J.), *Chloris and Zephyrus: a Late-Spring Idyll*, 3/6 net.
Lyne Britannica: a Book of Verse for Schools, selected by E. Pertwee, 2 parts, 1/ net each.
Menpes (Mortimer), *Henry Irving*, 2/ net.
Nicholson (Meredith), *Poems*.
Noyes (A.), *Drake, Books I.-III.*, 5/ net.
Shakespeare, Works, 6 vols., New Century Library, 2/ net each.
Skovgaard-Pedersen (A.), *Songs of my Land, and Others*, 1/6 net.
Tennyson (A.), *Dramas*, Pocket Edition, 2/ net.
Traherne (Thomas), *Poetical Works*, edited by B. Dobell, Second Edition, 3/6 net.
Young (Ellis), *Poems*, 1/ net.

Bibliography.

- Catalogue of the London Library, Supplement 3, 2/ net.

Philosophy.

- Münsterberg (H.), *Science and Idealism*, 3/6 net.
Political Economy.
Bonn (M. J.), *Modern Ireland and her Agrarian Problem*, translated by T. W. Rolleston, 2/6 net.
Dietzel (H.), *Retaliatory Duties*, trans. by D. W. Simon and W. O. Brigstocke, 2/6 net.
Johns Hopkins University Studies: *The Finances of American Trade Unions*, by A. M. Sakolski.
Wright (C. D.), *The Battles of Labour*, 3/ net.

History and Biography.

- Avery (E. M.), *History of the United States*, Vols. I and II, 6dols. 25c. net each.
De Lancy (Lady), *A Week at Waterloo in 1815*, edited by Major B. R. Ward, 6/ net.
Fosdick (L. J.), *The French Blood in America*, 7/6 net.
Franklin (Benjamin), *Writings*, Vol. VII., 1777-9, edited by A. H. Smyth, 12/6 net.
Gordon (Sir T. E.), *A Varied Life*, 15s. net.
Hamilton (A.), *Afghanistan*, 25/ net.
Hay (M.), *A German Pompadour*, 12/6 net.
Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-89: Vol. VI., 1776.
Lorne (Marquis of), *Viscount Palmerston*, Third Edition, 2/6 net.
Redesdale (Lord), *The Garter Mission to Japan*, 6/ net.
Reid (S. J.), *Lord John Russell*, Fourth Edition, 2/6 net.
Victoria History of Berkshire, edited by P. H. Ditchfield and W. Page, Vol. I. (4 vols. 12s. 6d.).

Geography and Travel.

- Johnston (Sir Harry), *Siberia*, 2 vols., 42/ net.
Morley (G.), *Sweet Arden*, 2/6 net.
More (C. C.), *Heroes of Discovery in America*, 4/6 net.
Stanford's *Octavo Atlas of Modern Geography*, 25/ net.
Willson (T. B.), *Handy Guide to Norway*, Fifth Edition, 5/ net.

Sports and Pastimes.

- Dalton (W.), 'Saturday' Bridge, 5/ net.
Hodgson (W. Earl), *Salmon Fishing*, 7/6 net.
MacLaren (A. C.), *Cricket*, 1/ net.
McCreedy (H. J.), *The Encyclopedia of Motoring*, 7/6 net.
Payn (F. W.), *Secrets of Lawn Tennis*, 2/6 net.

Philology.

- Bennett (R. R.), *Medical and Pharmaceutical Latin*, 6/ net.
Hugo's German Commercial Correspondent, 2/6 net.
Stati Silva, edited by J. S. Phillimore, 10/6 net.

School-Books.

- Arnold's Home and Abroad Readers, Book IIIA, 1/6 net.
Coulter (J. M.), *A Text-Book of Botany for Secondary Schools*, 5/ net.
Culler (J. A.), *Text-Book of Physics for Secondary Schools*, 4/6 net.
L'Estrange (P. H.), *A Progressive Course of Comparative Geography on the Concentric System*, 6/ net.
Osborne (W. A. and E. E.), *German Grammar for Science Students*, 2/6 net.
Plutarch's *Lives of Coriolanus, Caesar, Brutus, and Antonius*, in North's Translation, edited by R. H. Carr, 3/6 net.
Rees (F. E.), *Light, for Intermediate Students*, 1/6 net.
Stobart (J. C.), *The Age of Spenser, 1500-1600*, 1/6 net.

Science.

- Alderson (F. H.), *Diet and Hygiene for Infants*, 1/ net.
Alexander (F. M.), *Introduction to a New Method of Respiratory Vocal Re-education*, 1/ net.
Bailey (P.), *Diseases of the Nervous System resulting from Accident and Injury*, 21/ net.
Bardeen (C. R.), *Anatomy in America*, 50 cents.
Brunner (R.), *The Manufacture of Lubricants, Shoe Polishes, and Leather Dressings*, 7/6 net.
Diseases of Metabolism and of the Blood: *Animal Parasites, Toxicology*, edited by R. C. Cabot, 21/ net.
Gautier (A.), *Diet and Dietetics*, edited by A. J. Rice-Oxley, 18/ net.
Gowans's *Nature Books: Wild Birds at Home, Freshwater Fishes*, 6d. net each.
Harrison (J. W.), *Lessons on Sanitation*, 3/6 net.
Howard (G. W.), *Phlebitis and Thrombosis: Hunterian Lectures for 1906*, 5/ net.
Kinealy (J. H.), *Mechanical Draft: a Practical Handbook for Engineers*, 8s. 6d. net.
Kirchoffer (W. G.), *The Sources of Water Supply in Wisconsin*, 50 cents.
Martin (W. R.), *Lectures on Compass Adjustment*, 5/ net.
Report of the Electric Railway Test Commission to the President of Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 25/ net.
Skinner (F. W.), *Types and Details of Bridge Construction: Part II. Plate Girders, &c.*, 17/ net.
Society of Engineers: *Transactions for 1905, and General Index, 1857 to 1905*, 15/ net.
Stephens (C. A.), *Natural Salvation the Message of Science*.
Townsend (C. F.), *Chemistry for Photographers*, Fourth Edition, 1/ net.
Transactions of the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society, Vol. XIX, Part II., 3/ net.
Wiechmann (F. G.), *Notes on Electro-Chemistry*, 8/6 net.

General Literature.

- Beach (R. E.), *The Spoilers of the North*, 6/ net.
Benson (R. H.), *The Queen's Tragedy*, 6/ net.
Bindloss (H.), *The Cattle-Baron's Daughter*, 6/ net.
Birmingham (City of), *General and Detailed Financial Statement to 31st March, 1906*.
Blountelle-Burton (J.), *Traitor and True*, 6/ net.
Dean (Ellis), *The New Matron*, 6/ net.
Dumas (A.), *Vicomte de Bragelonne*, 4 vols., 10/ net.
Fogarty (E.), *Scenes from the Great Novelists*, 6d. net.
Gowans's *International Library: Lytton's The Haunted and the Hauntings; Bunyan's The Heavenly Footman; Jeremy Taylor's The Marriage Ring; Lytton's The Lady of Lyons*, 6d. net each.
Hamilton (S.), *The Recitation*, 4/6 net.
Haynes (G. H.), *The Election of Senators*, 6/ net.
Hilliers (A.), *An Old Score*, 6/ net.
Hornung (E. W.), *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*, 6/ net.
Hubert (H. B.), *In Search of a Siberian Klondyke*, 7/6 net.
La Rochefoucauld (Duc de), *Maximes*, 1/6 net.
Lytton (Lord), *The Last of the Barons*, Vol. I., 7/6. (Sold to Subscribers only.)
Milton (R.), *Cesar's Wife*, 6/ net.
More (A. C.), *Radio; or, New Light on Old Truths*, 3/6 net.
Nicolls (W. J.), *A Dreamer in Paris*, 3/6 net.
Walford (L. B.), *A Fair Rebel, and other Stories*, 6/ net.
Washington Irving's *Sketch-Book*, York Library, 2/ net.
Westcott (E. N.), *David Harun*, New Edition, 6/ net.
Wilson-Barrett (A.), *The House over the Way*, 6/ net.
Writing on the Wall, by "General Staff," 3/6 net.
Wyndham (H.), *Audrey the Actress*, 6/ net.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

- Duhm (B.), *Das Buch Habakuk*, Text, Übersetz. u. Erklärung, 2m. 80.
Harnack (A.), *Beiträge zur Einleitung in das Neue Testament: I. Lukas der Arzt*, 2m. 50.
Heussi (K.), *Johann Lorenz Mosheim*, 6m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Rembrandt, des Meisters Radierungen in 402 Abbildungen, herausgegeben von H. W. Singer, 8m.
Rembrandt Almanach, 1906-7, 1m.

Poetry and Drama.

- Shelley (P. B.), *Hellas*, traduit en prose française par M. Castelain, 2fr.

Music.

- Lederer (F.), *Über Heimat und Ursprung der mehrstimmigen Tonkunst: Keltische Renaissance; Die Reformation der Tonkunst im 15. Jahrhundert*.

Bibliography.

- Legrand (E.), *Bibliographie hellénique*, Vol. IV., 50fr.

Philosophy.

- Kleimn (O.), *G. B. Vico als Geschichtsphilosoph u. Völkerpsycholog*, 5m.

History and Biography.

Beauriez (L. de), *Robert le Fort et les Origines de la Race capétienne*, 2fr. 50.

Chauvigny (R. de), *Une Page d'Histoire religieuse pendant la Révolution: La Mère de Belloy et la Visitation de Rouen, 1748-1807*, 3fr. 50.

Corbin (Col.), *Notes et Souvenirs d'un Officier d'État-major, 1831-1904*, 3fr. 50.

Lemmi (Francesco), *Le Origini del Risorgimento Italiano, 1789-1815*, 6lire 50.

Schaube (A.), *Handelsgeschichte der romanischen Völker des Mittelmeergebiets bis zum Ende der Kreuzzüge*, 18m.

Waldeck-Rousseau, *Plaidoyers*, Series I., 3fr. 50.

Folk-Lore.

Gennep (A. van), *Mythes et Légendes d'Australie*, 10fr.

Schillot (P.), *Le Folk-lore de France: Vol. III. La Faune et la Flore*, 18fr.

Philology.

Vietor (W.), *Wie ist die Aussprache des Deutschen zu lehren? Vierte Auflage*, 6m. 50.

Science.

Rosenberg (W.) u. Strand (E.), *Japanische Spinnen*, 32m.

Diels (H.), *Die Handschriften der antiken Aertze: Part I. Hippokrates u. Galenos*, 5m.

Neuburger (M.), *Geschichte der Medizin*, Vol. I., 9m.

General Literature.

Abdallah Ibn al-Mokaffa, *La Perle incomparable*, Traduction française.

Aurel, *Les Jeux de la Flamme*, 3fr. 50.

Avry (S. d'), *Enfin!*, 3fr. 50.

Buteau (H.), *Un Orage*, 3fr. 50.

Candil (Fray), *Sintindome vivir*, 3 pesetas.

Coulevain (P. de), *L'île inconnue*, 3fr. 50.

Daurelle (J.), *La Troisième Héloïse*, 3fr. 50.

Erlande (A.), *Le Paradis des Vierges sages*, 3fr. 50.

Vincent (J.), *Petit Pène*, 3fr. 50.

*. * All Books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending Books.

OXFORD NOTES.

IN Oxford, if little changes, at least there is always a Movement.

The latest Movement but one concerned itself with the reform of Pass Moderations. It was proposed to substitute for short and scrappy papers on three groups of set books fuller and more searching papers on two groups. Congregation, however, was in a suspicious mood. It scented a plot to make things pleasant for the idler. If the time allowed for the papers were too short, let it be lengthened. The Board of Studies was competent to see to that. So the Board of Studies has seen to it, and an extra hour is to be allowed for each paper of the inexpugnable sacred triad. Small as this change may seem, it is something to be grateful for. From the candidate's point of view, indeed, to have to write at greater length and more thoughtfully might seem a falling-away from that blissful state of things when a page or two of hurried incoherencies was the utmost that might reasonably be demanded in respect to subject-matter. Nevertheless there can be no doubt that the better men strongly resented the insult to their intelligence conveyed in the old-time style of fourth-form paper. And the tutors, who have been wont to concern themselves seriously with the Pass Moderations books—the Philosophy tutor with the Plato, the Ancient History tutor with the Herodotus or Tacitus, and so on—glow with the thought that their expansive enthusiasm will no longer be incompatible with business. The soul of the Oxford Passman, "cabin'd, cribb'd, confin'd" (at least there can be no doubt about the "cribb'd"), is at last to be enfranchised.

The Movement in actual being is for putting all examinations as far as possible outside term. The saving clause "as far as possible" is introduced because it is frankly impossible to pen Honour Moderations within the strict limits of a five-week Easter Vacation. But for Final Honour Schools, it is urged, there is "the Long." Two months for *Literæ Humaniores* or Modern History will easily come out of that. If the "vivas" last through August, what then? A few more examiners *hors de combat*. A few more abstentions on the

part of candidates with ulterior designs upon the Indian Civil Service. In exchange, one clear gain. We can have our Eights' week later in the term (when, by the way, the weather will be finer). But already, it is whispered, the conspiracy is troubled with divided counsels. The ascetics who gloat over the prospect of additional macerations (with an improved and authorized Eights' week as set-off) find themselves at loggerheads with the curtailers of viva voce. Wherefore, though mountains heave in all directions, the outcome is likely to be some ridiculous mouset—say, the Final Schools postdated by a week.

Far more important than these matters of examination routine, yet less absorbing to the layman, if only because the ultimate springs of University business are largely hidden from his eyes, are the alterations recently effected in regard to the position and functions of the Registrar. When the late Mr. Grose was appointed, certain changes were made with the object of enlarging the Registrar's sphere of duty; so that the present legislation may be held to signify evolution rather than revolution. Its object is to create for the University nothing less than a regular Intelligence Department with the Registrar as head. From the point of view of the outside world, there has long been a need for an information office to which inquiries of all kinds might be addressed. Despite the transparent simplicity of our system, the Rhodes Scholar and the friends he brings with him seem, for the most part, quite incapable of understanding its workings. Nay, more, they are actually shameless enough to draw an unfavourable contrast between our time-honoured ways of doing business and those of sundry mushroom institutions of their own. Then, from the standpoint of the University itself, it was expedient that order and continuity should be imported into the conduct of affairs. Far too much of late has been allowed to weigh directly on the shoulders of the Vice-Chancellor, and it was imperative that he should be relieved of his more mechanical duties. One detail in the new scheme calls for special notice and commendation. The Registrar will in future have no vote in Council. This cannot but considerably strengthen his position. Since he will be in regard to Council very much what its clerk is to a City company, he clearly ought not to mix himself up with party questions, and so endanger his authority as confidential adviser.

The University accounts for 1905, for the first time for six years, show a balance on the credit side. It is true that this is represented by the modest sum of 5*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*; but a five-pound note to the good is at any rate better than a deficit of nearly 6,000*l.*, such as we had to face in 1902. For this gratifying change we have to thank the general increase of fees and dues introduced a few years back, and not yet fully in operation. When the new system is in working order we may look forward to a moderately substantial balance on the right side, though doubtless as fast as the money pours in to the exchequer it will be drained out again to meet the fresh charges imposed by that steady devotion to progress in all its forms for which, perhaps, we do not get all the credit we deserve.

Those who complain that the ancient universities scorn, or at any rate fail, to meet the requirements of a utilitarian age should acquaint themselves with the rapid way in which the new subject of Forestry has, to use an appropriate metaphor, taken root in Oxford. Moreover, thanks to the munificence of St. John's College, there now

exists a Sibthorpean Professor of Forest Botany and Rural Economy in the person of Dr. William Somerville, than whom, to judge from his previous record, no one is better qualified to make a success of the new branch of study.

The University is to be congratulated on its third Exhibition of Historical Portraits. These covered the eighteenth century and pre-Victorian portion of the nineteenth, and came almost entirely from our own walls. The earlier pictures, mostly by Kneller and his followers, were comparatively uninteresting as works of art; but this deficiency was atoned for by the importance of the subjects—for example, Wren, Addison, Pope, and Swift. On the other hand, there was a fine feast for the eye in the magnificent canvases of Reynolds and Gainsborough, the former being especially numerous. But perhaps the surprise of the exhibition was Lawrence. His 'Lord Auckland' or 'Sir Thomas Le Breton' held its own with the best. Whenever the day comes for a show of pictures of more modern date, will Oxford be found capable of providing a like collection of masterpieces? Hardly, perhaps. For one thing, artists' fees are higher. A Reynolds shown in the recent exhibition is said to have cost thirty-five guineas, and a Romney eighteen. Even at present prices, however, to bestow a first-rate portrait of oneself on an Oxford college is a cheap way of securing immortality.

It may not be the affair of Oxford so much as of the world at large, yet mention must surely be made here of the latest find at Oxyrhynchus. After all, Oxford contains Dr. Grenfell and Dr. Hunt, together with the 131 boxes full of MSS. still to be deciphered. The results of a first glance at their treasure were last month communicated to *The Times*. Most of us are provided with brand-new material for lectures and monographs. The theologians must discuss the authenticity of forty-five lines of a Gospel. The historians have to digest, not only a commentary on the second book of Thucydides, but also an entirely new work, possibly by Ephorus or Theopompus. Honour Moderations will be expected to elucidate Pindar's pæans, Cercidas's meliambi, Euripides's 'Hypsipyle,' Isocrates's 'Panegyricus,' and Demosthenes's 'Contra Boetium,' all represented by fragments of substantial size. Only the philosophers are left out in the cold, unless a few changes of reading in the 'Phædrus' and 'Symposium' are to be held enough to content them. And more will probably be forthcoming for all parties when the boxes are fully explored. The moral is that Oxford—and the world at large—should put its hand in its pocket "to complete the excavation of all the more promising portions of Oxyrhynchus before the concession for the site is given up."

This term we have had the pleasure of entertaining many distinguished visitors. His Imperial Chinese Majesty's High Commissioner, Duke Tsai Tseh, and other dignitaries of the Middle Kingdom, were presented with honorary degrees. They also were taken to see the Eights; but what they thought of the avocations of this place of learning has not transpired. A number of French professors and their wives spent the day in Oxford, and, needless to say, were welcomed with the utmost cordiality. The list of the recipients of degrees at the Encænica included Lord Milner, though he is hardly to be reckoned a visitor, and Mr. Haldane, likewise a familiar acquaintance. We have also to thank Manchester College for having invited over from Belgium Prof. Franz Cumont, whose three Hibbert Lectures on the influence of Oriental cults on Roman

religion were fully worthy of his great reputation.

Perhaps it is by this time too old a story to relate how Bodley's indefatigable Librarian regained for Oxford the Turbutt Shakespeare. Three thousand pounds was a considerable sum to have to raise in a hurry, and our deep gratitude is due to the subscribers, notably to Lord Stratheona, Mr. Alfred de Pass, and Mr. Turbutt himself.

Somerville College is to be commended for again offering a Research Fellowship, despite the many calls that must be made on the funds of so rapidly expanding an institution. The new Fellow—who, by the way, ultimately hails from Girtton (the women's colleges of Oxford and Cambridge having a charming may of exchanging this kind of compliment)—will devote her time to the subject of crystallization. M.

'THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND.'

LORD ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL's letter has to some extent made my reply to your reviewer unnecessary. I would add, however, that there is some evidence of clan tartans in the sixteenth century. Of course dates can only be approximate. Tartans were originally of the district, and dependent upon the local dyes for hue. Thence, by natural transition, they became the war-dress of the clans of the district, and great trouble, by all accounts, was taken to render the setts of the fighting units distinctive. That is an early necessity in the warfare of all ages. It is impossible to give specific dates for the tartans of Frasers, Chisholms, and Gordons. The first two penetrated the Highland line early in the days of the War of Independence, and became true Highland chiefs. The Border Gordons, who obtained Strathbogie from the Bruce on the forfeiture of Atholl, thenceforward pressed upon the Celtic natives to the west as the king's lieutenants, and in the result ruled Badenoch and many another *officina gentium*. Lord President Forbes in 1745 counted them not as Highlanders, but as having a large Highland following. Their tartan seems to have been what is called "the Huntly" until modern times. Barclay came north much earlier. There were four offshoots of that Anglo-Norman house in the time of William the Lion.

But the more difficult question is the philabeg. *Pace* your reviewer, I am not convinced by Mr. Baillie of Aberiachan. There is no clue to the occasion of his letter or to whom it was written, or why, being written in 1768, its publication was postponed until 1785. And what he says he never saw does not weigh much against the monumental evidence, and the argument from common sense. In the same way I would venture to rule out what your reviewer "never heard" nor "has learnt." I do not dispute that Mr. Rawlinson put his *sgalags* into kilts, or even that they cut off a bit of their *feile mor* to make them. But it is inconceivable that this hole-and-corner business was the origin of a fashion so soon and generally adopted, and so obviously simple and convenient. Kings and nobles must have long known its merits as a hunting garb; and we know they wore the *brecan*.

At present I can cite no texts about the *feile-beag*. Probably there are none. People did not write about their everyday garments until these were matters of legal importance. Alastair MacMhaisteir's 'Breacan Uallach' is the best *locus classicus* I know, and that is since the '45. There was no *Tailor* and

Cutter in those days, and no prize for "the best-dressed Highlander." People dressed according to their rank and means, as elsewhere, and, when they wrote at all, did not write topical descriptions. IAIN GALLDA.

*** Lord Archibald Campbell's letter shows that distinct clan tartans are earlier than, from a rather vague memory of Mr. D. Stewart's work on the subject, one had supposed. If the noble Lowland families, such as the Gordons, wore any tartan, doubtless they would adopt that of their Celtic vassals, if these had any distinctive tartan. The Gordons were an equestrian clan (if they can be called a clan) under Montrose, and wore Lowland costume. Under the Huntly of Glenrines fight they fought Campbells whose flag was certainly yellow, as Iain Gallda will remember, and scattered them. Yellow is not predominant in the Campbell tartan, any more than blue and yellow (as in 1689) are in that of the Camerons. It appears probable that the Gordons, if they ever wore the tartan, did so when hunting, not in war. The great MacLean was wearing the ordinary costume of a gentleman of Western Europe, was "in silk," when he fell in a skirmish (1598).

From the lack of written Gaelic literature in the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries, we know little about distinctive clan tartans. I am aware of no allusion to them in Islay's four volumes of the 'Popular Tales of the West Highlands,' where such allusions might naturally occur.

If the philabeg was commonly worn, I do not see why Mr. Rawlinson's men should have cut their plaids to make philabegs. Gentlemen commonly wore the trews, not kilts. The "monumental evidence," distinguishing a philabeg from a belted plaid, does not lie before me; but I am not prejudiced against ancient philabegs, and do not see that the question involves the credit of the clans. I do not know why Aberiachan wrote his letter, but letters of an earlier date than 1768 are frequently published for the first time at a later date than 1785. As to "no *Tailor* and *Cutter* in those days," Iain Gallda must at least remember Lochiel's tailor on the day when "catskins are cheap." Portraits of Highlanders of the sixteenth century are necessarily rare, and the great princes like Argyll were painted in the garb of civilization. The whole question of costume is thus vague, and, of course, the 'Vestiarium Scoticum,' whatever its origin may be, is of no authority for early times. Maxwell of Kirkconnell, writing of 1745, describes the clans as wearing in addition to the plaid, "a kind of petticoat or shirt [misprint for *skirt*] which reaches from their middle to their knees" (p. 25). It appears to myself, as to Iain Gallda, most improbable that Mr. Rawlinson's alleged improvement was universally adopted in the course of twenty years, at most, and this is the best evidence I know on his side, apart from "the monuments." THE REVIEWER.

[This discussion is now closed.]

GEORGE BUCHANAN'S SCHOOLS.

THE biographers of George Buchanan have not been able to throw much light on the schools of Buchanan—the *scholæ patriæ* of which he tells us. To that extent they have failed to show what share Scottish learning had in forming the distinguished scholar and Humanist. That he went to the village school at Killearn, about two miles from his home at Mid Leowen, is almost certain. Killearn was then a prebend in the Chapter of Glasgow; and, along with other benefices, it had been annexed, in

1506, by the archbishop to "the College of his University." Its rector, from 1504, was Patrick Graham, brother of the Earl of Montrose. In 1512 he became a Canon of Glasgow, and during the three following years he was elected Rector of its University ('*Munimenta Universitatis Glasguensis*,' vol. ii. pp. 42, 127-9; also '*Diocesan Registers*,' vol. ii. pp. 76, 442, &c.). Yet whatever the efficiency of the Killearn school, it could have had but little influence on George's future development, since we know that his family left the district for Hilton, in Cardross of Menteith, when he was in his seventh year.

It has been suggested that his next school was at Dunbarton. This is given on the authority of Mackenzie, who evidently mistook Cardross near the town of Dunbarton for Cardross of Menteith, in Perthshire (Mackenzie's '*Lives and Characters of the Most Eminent Writers of the Scots Nation*,' vol. iii. p. 156). There is no scrap of evidence to bear out the assertion. Even the tradition is not too strong, and seems to have been formed since the publication of Mackenzie's statement. The claims of Stirling have been recently advocated by Mr. A. F. Hutchison, M.A. ('*The High School of Stirling*,' pp. 273-4). An objection fatal to Mr. Hutchison's view is the fact that Alexander Yule, a friend and contemporary of Buchanan, and a former master of the Stirling High School, makes no mention of George Buchanan's name in connexion with Stirling, even when enumerating some of the celebrated men who were educated there (v. dedication of Yule's edition of Buchanan's '*Psalms*,' with ephrasim which was partly sketched by Buchanan himself).

There were other schools, connected with the cathedrals and great religious houses of those days, where Buchanan may well have studied. Tentative researches regarding Campsie, Dunkeld, and Paisley have, up till now, been resultless. With the Glasgow Grammar School I have met with more success. Robert Baillie, Principal of the University of Glasgow, writing, May 23rd, 1660, to his friend Mr. William Dauglass, Professor of Divinity at Aberdeen, about the famous men associated with the University and the city, has this item:—

"George Buchanan, born in Strathblaine, seven miles from Glasgow, bred in our Grammar School, much conversing in our Colledge, the chief instrument to purchase our rents from Queen Mary and King James. He left our library a parcel of good books noted in his hand."—'*Letters and Journals of Robert Baillie, A.M.*,' vol. iii. p. 402.

McUre, in his '*History of Glasgow*,' 1830, was the first to make public this important letter of Principal Baillie.

Baillie was born at Glasgow, twenty years after the death of Buchanan, and was educated at the city Grammar School, and the University, of which he afterwards became professor and Principal. His reference to Buchanan's interest in the University and its library is historically correct; and his statement on the other more important point may be taken as authoritatively establishing the identity of one of Buchanan's schools—probably the only other except that of Killearn.

The Grammar School of Glasgow grew up under the shadow of the Cathedral, and existed at least in the early part of the fourteenth century. It was under the immediate supervision of the Chancellor of the diocese ('*Munimenta*,' vol. i. p. 37; '*Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis*,' pp. 490-1). James IV., while yet a youth, was created a Canon of the Metropolitan Church, and it would seem as if his zeal for education had imparted itself to the school. Early in the sixteenth century, and on to its close, it

was, in striking contrast to the University, in a flourishing condition. One of its best-known masters, midway in that period, is Thomas Jack, whose 'Onomasticon Poeticum' so pleased George Buchanan that he laid aside his 'History' to revise the book and add some finishing touches.

I have not been able to ascertain when Buchanan became a pupil of the Glasgow Grammar School. It is certain that during part of his tuition there Matthew Reid, M.A., acted as head master. Reid is first mentioned in 1511, among the *incorporati* of the local University ('*Munimenta*,' vol. ii. p. 126). In 1520, and for some time thereafter, he was chosen Treasurer of the Faculty ("neon electus fuit in bursarium discretus vir Magister Matheus Reid, magister scole grammaticalis," *ibid.*, p. 139). Two years later he was elected one of the deputies of the Rector.

Buchanan was, from the first, a student. It was his early aptitude and skill in the Latin tongue, which he "learned with much pains in boyhood" ('*Historia*,' lib. i. 8), that appealed with such good results to James Heriot, the shrewd Justiciar of Haddington. At fourteen, when he left school, he must have known much, at least in the matter of Latin, that Master Reid could teach him. At fourteen Andrew Melville, fresh from the Greek School at Montrose, entered the College of St. Mary, in the University of St. Andrews, and astonished not a little the professors there by using the Greek text in his study of Aristotle. Buchanan with all his capacity and diligence, was no prodigy; yet we can well believe that when he started for Paris he knew and spoke the language of old Rome as well as any who ever left our shores for that famous seat of learning. The glory of being the first thus to lay the foundations of that Latinity in which he afterwards so greatly excelled, and to foster in him the real love of knowledge, must be assigned to the Scottish school-master Matthew Reid, whose name has lain, for nearly four centuries, hidden, but not unhonoured, in the muniments and annals of his *Alma Mater*.

ROBERT MUNRO, B.D.

'THE AGE OF JUSTINIAN AND THEODORA.'

June 23rd, 1906.

I MUST take exception to your reviewer's statement that Procopius invariably speaks of Byzantium only because he was an archaeological pedant. I doubt if he would have used an obsolete term if it had not been the current name for the city in his day. His practice is not at all singular. Malchus, Agathias, Menander, Theophanes (2), and even such authors as Marinus and Damascius, write Byzantium. Abridging Procopius in the ninth century, Photius does not think it necessary to change the word he found in the text. Even Anna Comnena used the classical name. The list is altogether too numerous to give in its entirety. I hold the case proved, therefore, that the Greeks spoke of Byzantium, although in official posters and rescripts cut on stone, both in Greek and Latin, all over the Empire, they read Constantinople. It is improbable that the latter was ever a spoken title of the city, but I think there was a colloquialism, say 'Stanpol' (like 'Frisco'), as is evidenced by the Moslem Stamboul or Istambol. Authors like Malala, Paschal Chronicle, &c., wrote at a distance (Syria, Egypt), where the capital was only known to a partly alien population through official documents, so that the new title was the only one familiar

locally. As for the reference to Gibbon, I think it implies that a perversion of facts is required in order to be in fashion with a certain coterie and to disagree with the most sagacious of one's predecessors. But there was nothing original in Gibbon's view: it had passed into full currency long before his time. A passage in a recent work on that historian could easily be found in which a man of distinction reproaches him for having taken as his theme so sordid a period of history. To me those who make it their business to crack up Byzantinism nowadays appear "as no other thing than a pestilent congregation" of cranks, as far as that object is concerned. Such views are never likely to prove valuable for the purpose of public instruction. With respect to the religious question, Gibbon's exposition is like the sun beaming behind a bank of clouds; but we now exist under a clear sky in that quarter, and "cocksureness" may be accepted as a euphemism for plain matter of fact. As to Theodora, once admit that she was a courtesan and her subsequent career on the throne proves that she must have been an out-and-out strumpet. "Degradation" was not in her thought, but pre-eminence in the special line in which she found herself, I do not say chose, for no doubt she was pitchforked into it, like most young people into their particular vocation.

W. G. HOLMES.

MORE ELIANA.

Two brief poems by Charles Lamb, which have hitherto escaped the collectors of Eliana, are to be found in an old periodical entitled *The Mirror of Literature, Amusement, and Instruction*. In the number of that weekly magazine for June 1st, 1833, in a section of scraps entitled 'The Gatherer,' are two pieces signed "C. L.—b" (in the index they are given as "Lamb, C., lines by"). The first of these two is given by Mr. E. V. Lucas in the appendix (vol. vii. p. 995) to his edition of Lamb's 'Works,' and the place of its origin is duly stated; yet the second piece, which occurs on the same page of *The Mirror*, is curiously ignored. It is the following:—

FROM THE LATIN.

As swallows shrink before the wintry blast,
And gladly seek a more congenial soil,
So flatterers halt when fortune's lure is past
And basely court some richer lordling's smile.

C. L.—b.

In the same periodical for May 7th, 1836, I find this:—

"C. LAMB.—The following lines were written by the late C. Lamb upon the cover of a book of blotting paper.—F. W. L.

Blank tho' I be, within you'll find
Relics of th' enraptured mind:
Where truth and fable, mirth and wit,
Are safely here deposited.
The placid, furious, envious, wise,
Impart to me their secrecies;
Here hidden thoughts in blotted line,
Nor syll [sic] can the sense divine,
Leth and I twin sisters be—
Then, stranger, open me and see."

In the two latest editions of Charles Lamb's works—those of Mr. E. V. Lucas and of Mr. William Macdonald—and also in the 'Essays and Sketches' by Charles Lamb which I annotated for the series of "Temple Classics," there is given a brief essay or part of an essay on 'London Fogs.' Mr. Lucas was under the impression that he gave it for the first time, but in an appendix to his last volume was able to say conclusively that the scrap was not by Lamb at all, though in ascribing it to Leigh Hunt he does not apparently refer it to its proper author. The essay appeared in a place in which it should not have been overlooked by any one of us. In the first volume

of Hone's 'Every-Day Book,' under the date of November 24th (column 1502), there is given 'London in November,' extracted from 'The Mirror of the Months.' The latter half of that extract is the brief bit which, on the authority of his friend Ayrton, we have been ascribing to Lamb. 'The Mirror of the Months'—published anonymously in 1826—was, according to the British Museum Catalogue and the 'D.N.B.,' written by P. G. Patmore, and the first four of the "months" had appeared in *The New Monthly Magazine* earlier in the same year.

WALTER JERROLD.

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS are bringing out immediately a new edition of Mr. Swinburne's famous study 'William Blake: a Critical Essay.' The text will remain unaltered, but there will be a new and powerfully written preface, in which Mr. Swinburne will discuss what he considers to be the fantastic theories concerning the meaning and value of the prophetic books which have lately been advanced. Alluding to the fact that some of these critics have claimed for Blake a Celtic origin, Mr. Swinburne emphasizes an opinion which he has before expressed, that the existence of a Celtic literature is the misleading theory of an eminent writer who knew nothing about the subject—Matthew Arnold. Mr. Swinburne contends that as a matter of fact there is no Celtic literature at all of the smallest value. He says:—

"Some Hibernian commentator on Blake, if I rightly remember a fact so insignificant, has somewhere said something to some such effect as that I, when writing about some fitfully audacious and fancifully delirious deliverance of the poet he claimed as a countryman, and trying to read into it some coherent and imaginative significance, was innocent of any knowledge of Blake's meaning. It is possible, if the spiritual fact of his Hibernian heredity has been or can be established, that I was: for the excellent reason that, being a Celt, he now and then too probably had none worth the labour of deciphering—or at least worth the serious attention of any student belonging to a race in which reason and imagination are the possibly preferable substitutes for fever and fancy. But in that case it must be gladly and gratefully admitted that the Celtic tenuity of his sensitive and prehensile intelligence throws into curious relief the occasional flashes of inspiration, the casual fits of insight, which raise him to the momentary level of a deep and a free thinker as well as a true and an immortal poet. The vein of sound reason in Blake's eccentric and fitful intelligence has never been adequately acknowledged or perceived."

Mr. UNWIN will publish in July a work entitled 'The Finality of the Christian Religion,' by Prof. G. Burman Foster, of Chicago. It is written from a liberal standpoint, and its purpose is to set forth Christianity not as a religion of historical facts or authoritative dogmas, but as a religion of spirit and personality. The book, which is of considerable length, is partly historical and partly philosophical in character.

IN *The Scottish Historical Review* for July the connexion between Scotland and Man is dealt with at large by the Speaker of the House of Keys, Mr. Moore. Sir Herbert Maxwell translates 'Scalacronica,' and Mr. Lang debates James V.'s "Will." Miss M. Sidgwick prints for the first time Major-General Drummond's dispatch on the battle of Rullion Green, at which he commanded the royal troops. Dr. James Colville analyzes the diary of Sir Thomas Hope, King's Advocate, during 1633-45. Mr. H. Bingham describes a phase of the Darien Company—the situation in 1695-6, when the heather was catching fire. A review of Mr. Paul's 'Froude,' by Prof. Hume Brown, will attract attention. There is lively battle over the Anglo-Saxon 'Andreas.'

WE hear that after lengthy negotiations the Keats House at Rome is likely to become the property of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association. Support has been privately secured, but more is needed. The actual purchase of the house will cost over 4,000*l.* It is hoped to make the building the centre of a representative collection of relics of the poet.

W. T. writes:—

"The facts regarding Fielding's first marriage have, as is well known, eluded the researches of his biographers. The desired information has now been obtained. In a letter to *The Bath Chronicle* Mr. T. S. Bush, of Bath, quotes the following extract from the registers of St. Mary's Church, Charlcombe: 'November ye 28, 1734. Henry Fielding, of the parish of St. James in Bath, Esq., and Charlotte Cradock of ye same parish, spinster, were married by virtue of a licence from ye Court at Wells.' Charlcombe is about two miles from Bath."

A NOTABLE collection of old English literature, formed by a Commissioner of Customs in the early part of the eighteenth century, will be sold by Messrs. Hodgson next week. The most important item is a copy of the rare Elizabethan poem 'Sir Francis Drake, His Honorable Lifes Commendation and his Tragical Deathea Lamentation,' by Charles Fitzgeffrey, printed by Joseph Barnes at Oxford in 1596. It appears to be a copy of the earliest issue, as it does not contain the commendatory verses by Mychelbourne added in the second edition, and the verses by Richard and Francis Rous are signed with initials only, not in full, as in the British Museum copy.

AN interesting relic has just been acquired by the Montrose Natural History and Antiquarian Society. It consists of a sheet of Walter Scott's autograph notes on Scottish "slogans," with foot-notes by Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe and also by Robert Chambers, who, when he was preparing his 'Popular Rhymes of Scotland,' was supplied by Scott with whole sheets of recollections. The holograph is one of these, written in 1825. Opposite Clanranald are the Gaelic words "Garyen Coheriger," and in English: "Spelled at random. Gainsay who dares." Chambers marked the line with a cross, and his foot-note states that this erroneous orthography proves Scott to be the author of 'Waverley.'

THE death of Mr. Budgett Meakin removes a leading English authority on Morocco. His trilogy of books on the subject is of permanent value, for his writing was always thorough and painstaking, though he had no particular gifts of style. He was on the staff of *The Times of Morocco* from 1884 to 1903.

NEXT week we shall publish our usual 'Notes from Cambridge,' concerning the work of the past term.

THE death is announced from New York of Mr. Edwin Babcock Holden, at the early age of forty-three. Mr. Holden had for the last ten years been one of the best known of American bibliophiles, and was one of the oldest members of the Grolier Club, where many of the successful exhibitions of books and prints owed much to his assistance. His library contained many fine books relating to early and modern English literature, but he was principally interested in rare prints. He was elected President of the Grolier Club in January last.

M. HENRI DONIOL, whose death occurred in Paris last week, was for many years Director of the Imprimerie Nationale, to which he was appointed in 1882. He was born in Auvergne in 1818, and began life as a barrister. The list of his works is long, including a 'Histoire des Classes rurales en France' and 'Les Patois de la Basse Auvergne'; but his most important undertaking was the 'Histoire de la Participation de la France à l'Établissement des États-Unis,' which was published in five volumes from 1886 to 1892, a complementary volume appearing in 1899. He was a frequent contributor to the *Journal des Économistes* and the *Journal d'Agriculture*.

THE *Temps* has published large extracts from a letter which has been printed in Russian in St. Petersburg, in which General Bennigsen gives a full account of the actual murder of the Emperor Paul. The details are new, and include a painful scene with the two empresses. But there is no historical importance in the indirect references to the plot itself. We already knew that Pahlen and Bennigsen were the chief agents of the conspiracy, and that Alexander knew what was to happen, although it was pretended that imprisonment only was meant.

A FURTHER list of prizes on the Berger, Gegner, and other foundations was announced at the French Institut on Saturday last. M. Franz Funck-Brentano has obtained 5,000*fr.* for his literary works dealing with the Bastille; M. de Lauzac de Laborie receives 2,000*fr.* for his book on 'Paris sous Napoléon'; MM. Chassin and Hennet a similar amount for their 'Volontaires pendant la Révolution'; and M. Paul Robiquet 1,000*fr.* for his 'Histoire de la Municipalité de Paris.' The Prix Wolowski, of the value of 4,000*fr.*, is divided between M. Bourguin, professor at the École de Droit, and M. Pierre Leroy-Beaulieu, the young Député for Hérault.

At the Académie Française a cardinal takes the seat of a cardinal, Cardinal

Désiré Mathieu succeeding *nem. con.* to the chair vacant by the death of Cardinal Perraud. The new Academician is ranked high as an historian, although his literary "baggage" so far is not heavy.

WE are sorry to hear of the serious illness of M. Albert Sorel, the distinguished French historian and Academician. Although he has taken a turn for the better during the last few days, it is expected that complete recovery will be a matter of some months of absolute rest.

THE Geheime Staatsarchiv of Berlin has recently purchased from their French owner some 184 original letters written by Frederick the Great to Voltaire, during the years 1740-77. The purchase is of great importance, as the published text of those letters which are already known is very corrupt.

AMONG the grants distributed by the Prussian Akademie der Wissenschaften are one of 5,000 marks to Prof. Wilamowitz-Möllendorff, to enable him to carry on his collection of Greek inscriptions, and one of 3,000 marks to Geheimrat Diels, who is cataloguing the MSS. of the physicians of antiquity.

At the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Booksellers' Provident Institution held on Thursday last week the sum of 104*l.* was voted to 57 members and widows of members. Three new members were elected.

THE Record of the Seventy-ninth Anniversary Festival of the Printers' Pension Corporation, at which Mr. Franklin Thomasson presided on the 29th of May, shows that the total receipts on that occasion amounted to 5,778*l.* It is interesting to note that this important trade institution, founded in 1827, was originated by two working printers of the name of Sears. While engaged in setting up in type the rules and regulations of the Watch and Clock Makers' Pension Society, they were struck with the excellence of the idea, and decided then and there to bring into existence for their own fraternity a charitable organization with like objects. There has been a marked growth in the prosperity of the institution since the appointment of Mr. Joseph Mortimer as secretary.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include a Return of Moneys contributed out of Rates by the County Council and other Local Bodies in Ireland for the Schemes under the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899 (*1d.*); and Annual Reports of Proceedings under the Diseases of Animals Acts, the Markets and Fairs (Weighing of Cattle) Acts, &c., for 1905 (*1s.*).

SCIENCE

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Royal Society; or, Science in the State and in the Schools. By Sir William Huggins. (Methuen & Co.)—This interesting souvenir of Sir William's presidency of the Royal Society will be read with great interest, not only by the scientific, but also

by the general public. It consists chiefly of four presidential addresses delivered in the years 1902 to 1905; but these are preceded by a sketch of the early history of the Society, in the composition of which the author acknowledges his obligations to Weld's well-known 'History.' The origin was a small club, formed about 1645, of "divers worthy persons, inquisitive into natural philosophy, and particularly what was called the New Philosophy or Experimental Philosophy," which met weekly in London for discussion. Later the club divided: one part removed to Oxford, and formed the Philosophical Society of Oxford, whilst the other remained in London. They continued, however, to communicate with each other until the Oxford Society ceased to exist in 1690. The London Society was incorporated in 1662, and became the Royal Society, the first President being Lord Brouncker. (Before the incorporation Sir Robert Moray acted as President.) The meetings were held at Gresham College until in 1710, whilst Newton was President, the Society acquired a house of their own in Crane Court, Fleet Street. Here the Fellows remained until, in 1780, rooms at Somerset House were placed at their disposal by the Government, from which they removed in 1857 to Burlington House, occupying at first the portion now held by the Royal Academy, and from 1873 the new eastern wing, where they are still located, other scientific societies occupying the western wing opposite.

Sir William Huggins's first address, in 1902, was on "the supreme importance of science to the industries of the country, which can be secured only through making science an essential part of all education"; the last, in 1905, on "the profound influence which science, represented by the Royal Society, has had upon the life and thought of the world; and the place of science in general education." All four are of great interest and importance; and the value of the volume is much enhanced by the excellence of the numerous illustrations, which include portraits of Evelyn, Newton, Dalton, Young, Davy, and Faraday.

Our Stellar Universe: Stereoscopic Star Charts and Spectroscopic Key Maps. By Thomas Edward Heath. (King, Sell & Olding.)—In his former work, 'A Road-book to the Stars,' Mr. Heath made an attempt to represent to the eye how the stars, so far as their parallaxes and distances are approximately known, would appear as regarded from different parts of the stellar universe. In the book now before us he enables us, by the aid of the stereoscope, to obtain at a glance an idea of their respective proportionate distances from us. He relates how he has formed a very convenient scale of adaptation for this purpose:—

"If the distance which light travels in one year be represented by one mile, the distance of the earth from the sun on the same scale will be one inch. Therefore, to think clearly, take a suitable map, place the sun at Greenwich, and dot the stars about it (as many miles from Greenwich as their light takes years to reach the earth), and you have a scale of stellar distances easily grasped by ordinary minds."

Of course, amongst the mass of stars, the distances of only a few have been measured even approximately; but by the use of Prof. Kapteyn's formulæ according to type of spectrum, and an average parallax for stars of a particular class and magnitude, it is possible to indicate on these charts the probable respective distances of a very large number, and the positions of the few which have been measured with some accuracy

stand out distinctly. The labour of preparing these views must have been enormous, and Mr. Heath merits the thanks of all interested in our present knowledge (which is bound to "grow," in Tennyson's language, "from more to more") of the stellar universe for going through it. As a previous critic remarks, he has "made the best use of the best material," and in doing so has been efficiently assisted by Mr. O. R. Walkey, whilst he acknowledges his obligations to the well-known writer Mr. J. E. Gore, who has supplied information about parallaxes.

THE latest volume in the "English Men of Science Series" is Prof. Arthur Thomson's *Herbert Spencer* (Dent), which is an admirable summary of the philosopher's work. Prof. Thomson pays special attention to Spencer's labours as an evolutionist, and not so much to his psychology and sociology. The exposition of Spencer's achievements is lucid and appreciative up to a point. The author decides that "Spencer was not far from the kingdom of genius," which will seem to many an over-cautious statement. But indeed it is pretty clear that Prof. Thomson has no great faith in the Synthetic Philosophy, though obviously admiring the patience, ingenuity, and intelligence with which it was constructed. In the journey from the nebula to human society, which is the course of the evolutionary theory, he considers the system to sustain three "jolts"—at the origin of life, at the origin of mind, at the origin of man." Spencer himself would have been the first to acknowledge the apparent gap between organic and inorganic life, while it is clear that his theory took for granted a future bridge, which some scientific students at the present moment are claiming to have discovered. Prof. Thomson does not seem to be convinced of the "ascent of man," finding a difficulty in the evolution of mind, and apparently subscribing to Dr. Russel Wallace's postulate of "spiritual influx." This is hardly a temper which could give adequate appreciation to the Synthetic System. But we are driven to conclude, after a careful perusal of Prof. Thomson's comments, that he is really sympathetic, if over-cautious. For example, he answers his own doubts regarding mental evolution in another passage, which could not be bettered, and which we quote:—

"When one of the higher animals, in the course of its development, reaches a certain, or rather uncertain, degree of differentiation, its functioning becomes behaviour; its activities are such that we cannot interpret them without using psychological terms, such as awareness or intelligence. This expression of fuller life is associated with the increased development of the nervous system, and we have no knowledge of any psychological life apart from nervous metabolism."

Prof. Thomson's criticism is always clear and suggestive, and his book is stimulating. His final summary of Spencer's work is that "he brought home the idea of philosophic synthesis to a greater number of the Anglo-Saxon race than had ever conceived the idea before. His own synthesis in the particular form he gave it will necessarily crumble away."

We had thought that Spencer's achievement was almost better known outside the Anglo-Saxon race. Certainly he claims easy rank as a world-force. As for the prophecy, we will not emulate Prof. Thomson's boldness by a counter-prediction. That Spencer made mistakes is known to all students of philosophy, and was recognized by himself; but the value of his life's work lay in the gigantic system which he constructed, and in which no serious breaches have yet been made. This is a great thing to say, for it

can be said of only two or three thinkers of all time.

Everyman's Book of Garden Flowers. By John Halsham. (Hodder & Stoughton.)—Those who read and appreciated Mr. Halsham's useful and practical work on gardening will not be disappointed if they procure his later work. In these 375 pages we find the same care and knowledge, set forth, moreover, in clear and concise language, which is a not unpleasant contrast to the rather grandiose style affected by some modern garden-writers. Roses are excluded on the score of space; but the book deals fully enough with border and bedding plants, and is freely and successfully illustrated by over a hundred photographs by Mr. Henry Irving. While many professed gardeners may get useful information here, it is eminently the book for the amateur in all stages.

Enigmas of Psychical Research. By James H. Hyslop. (Putnam's Sons.)—There is not much novelty in Dr. Hyslop's 'Enigmas of Psychical Research.' The study needs two things: first, a continual supply of fresh examples, well recorded, of apparently supernatural phenomena; next, criticism of these cases by some antagonist who has taken the trouble to study the evidence. As a rule—perhaps a rule without an exception—unfavourable critics have been too impatient to study the evidence: they misstate it, and base their strictures on their own inventions. Dr. Hyslop mainly tells over again, and does not tell very well, old anecdotes from the collections of the Society for Psychical Research. As these collections are of very easy access, we do not see the use of retelling thrice-told stories. To make anything out of "The Ancient Oracles" a fresh critical examination of the classical sources is necessary. We have not made it, but can readily believe the report of one who has—that there is nothing, or next to nothing, of psychical interest in what tradition tells about the oracles. There is nothing in Dr. Hyslop's chapter to suggest that he has done more than look into the remarks of Curtius, Mommsen, and Mr. F. W. H. Myers on the ancient oracles. As to crystal-gazing, he confesses that he takes his history of the subject from Mrs. H. H. Spoor's essay, a piece of pioneer work; and his modern instances are the *crambe repetita* of the S.P.R., with a note of a few ordinary crystal pictures seen by a Mrs. D. If Mr. Myers "endeavoured to establish the view that mental action was not a function of the brain," that fact is new to us: we had understood Mr. Myers otherwise. When Dr. Hyslop wishes to cite the memoirs of Saint-Simon, he gives the passage "as quoted by *The Nation*" (p. 104), which, we presume, is responsible for 'La Ferte' without the accent. A book so common as Walter Scott's 'Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft' is cited not at first hand, but from Dr. Carpenter (p. 186). The tale is the old tale of the illusory appearance of Byron at Abbotsford: from a remark by Lockhart, we doubt whether or not the Sheriff was wholly satisfied by his own explanation. On p. 227 a person is said to have seen "an apparition coincident with the death of a friend." The apparition, if apparition it was, was not that of "a friend," and was not exactly "coincident with the death." The same person (p. 346) is said to "vouch for" the longest and strangest of modern ghost stories. He vouches for nothing except the accuracy of his report of what was told to him. Somebody certainly travelled across England, and did a variety of most unusual things. But whether that somebody took all this trouble to oblige

a party of ghosts is between herself and her conscience. A Dr. Ferrier, also said to "vouch for" the affair, was not the well-known and long-deceased Dr. Ferrier: the name here is a pseudonym.

Dr. Hyslop's object is not to afford "scientific proof of a transcendental world," but merely to adduce "evidence of something which needs further investigation." But almost all his evidence had long ago been laid before the curious. Dr. Hyslop justifies the antiquity of his evidence on the ground that it "has received the recognition of a scientific body," that is, has been published by the Society for Psychical Research. The book has no index.

THE THEORY OF ELECTRONS AND ITS DIFFICULTIES.

II.

In the first part of this article (*Athenæum*, June 23rd) an endeavour was made to set forth the main features of the electronic theory as formulated by Prof. Lorentz, and it was shown how it has been used by him to explain not only all the phenomena of electricity, but also the experiments in light and heat which are known as the Zeeman, the Peltier, and the Thomson effects respectively. But there has now to be taken into account a well-known experiment which, as Prof. Lorentz confesses, cannot be reconciled with the popular versions of the electronic theory of matter, and brings us to a standstill unless we are willing to venture into a new and almost unexplored field. Prof. Hall (of Baltimore) showed some seventeen years ago that if an oblong strip of very thin metal be affixed to a glass plate, a current passed through it from one short side to the other, the two ends of a galvanometer circuit connected with any two points on its long sides found by trial to be equipotential, and the whole system placed between the poles of an electromagnet in such a position that the surface of the strip is at right angles to the lines of force of the magnetic field, the needle of the galvanometer, till then quiescent, will be deflected, and will indicate that the current flowing through the strip is displaced towards one long side or the other. This displacement can be reversed by reversing the current actuating the electromagnet or, of course, the original current, but is otherwise constant when once established.

Now Prof. Lorentz and those who think with him have hitherto considered all the phenomena of conduction as produced by the movement of negative electrons only. In the lecture in question he dismisses as untenable the hypothesis of a double current in metals, in which the positive electrons would move in the one direction and the negative in the other, affirming that the difficulties in the way of such a supposition are practically insuperable. So, too, Prof. J. J. Thomson refuses in effect to consider the existence of positive electrons at all, declaring that the "electric fluid" is an "assemblage of corpuscles" or negative electrons, a "positively electrified body" being "one that has lost some of its corpuscles." But the Hall effect declines—as Prof. Lorentz admits with a frankness that might be imitated with advantage by other physicists—to come into line with these somewhat hasty generalizations. So long as the strip of metal used in it is made of copper, gold, nickel, or bismuth, the magnetic displacement takes place towards the left edge of the strip, and we may imagine the negative electrons to be threading their way between the atoms of the metal, and hindered

only by the lateral thrust exerted by the magnetic field. This is, of course, exactly what is supposed to happen to the same bodies *in vacuo*, as in the familiar instance of the cathode rays. But if for the strip of copper, gold, nickel, or bismuth we substitute one of iron, zinc, cobalt, antimony, or tellurium, the direction of the displacement changes, and it takes place, not towards the left edge of the strip, but towards the right. Now we know from the fundamental experiment with radium that the Alpha rays, or streams of positively charged particles, emitted by that substance are deflected by a magnetic field in the opposite direction to the Beta, or streams of negative electrons. The conclusion therefore seems to be forced upon us that in the case of bismuth and its analogues it is the negative electrons that are moving through the metal, and in that of iron and the like the positive.

This is the conclusion of Prof. Drude, of Berlin, and presents some analogy with what happens in the electrical decomposition of solutions, where the metallic ions or particles are carried by their positive charges to one electrode, while their gaseous fellows are taken by their negative riders to the other. But Prof. Lorentz will have none of this interpretation, declaring, among other things, that it would imply a combination of positive and negative electrons, and consequently an ever-increasing accumulation in the strip of what he calls "neutral electricity," which sooner or later would be bound to make its presence felt. He prefers, therefore, to reject altogether any explanation which depends upon a movement of positive electrons, and to state boldly that the problem presented by the Hall effect is still unsolved, and can be solved only by a "profound theoretical study" of the phenomenon. He is greatly influenced towards this by the conviction that the positive electrons are invariably bound in metallic atoms, and that it is the negative electrons alone that can be detached from matter. This accords both with the above-quoted dictum of Prof. J. J. Thomson that a positively electrified body is one that has lost negative electrons, and with the hypothesis of M. Langevin (referred to by M. Poincaré in his *Athenæum* article) which supposes the whole ether to consist of what we call positive electricity, the negative electrons being merely holes in it.

The out-and-out supporters of the electronic theory seem therefore deeply committed to the proposition that positive electrons freed from ponderable matter either do not exist, or, if they do, are incapable of movement. But when we come to look into the experimental, as apart from the mathematical, evidence of this, we find that it is not only remarkably small in amount, but is also not entirely free from suspicion of error. All the experiments upon which Prof. Lorentz and his followers rely for the behaviour of positive electrons have been made either with the streams of particles in a vacuum tube which are driven back through holes in the cathode, and are generally called the Goldstein or canal rays, or with the Alpha rays emitted by radium and the other highly radio-active substances. In both these cases there are excellent reasons why the positive electrons should appear bound, as Prof. Lorentz would call it, to minute masses of metal. The canal rays take their origin from a metallic cathode which is known to become disintegrated in the process, and it is not therefore astonishing that fragments of it should be torn off and carried along by the stream of positive electrons, which can otherwise be shown not to be homogeneous. So, too, with

radium: the molecule, or perhaps the atom, is torn asunder with explosive violence, and some fragments of this very heavy metal are likely enough to remain linked to the positive electrons, and to account by their presence for the small penetrating power of the Alpha rays. Yet it is not difficult to imagine an experiment where all risk of metallic admixture might be avoided. The oscillating discharge of a Leyden jar can be transformed up until the charge reaches so high a tension that no conductor can retain it, and it is flung into the air from the terminal of the transformer in the shape of luminous aigrettes. These aigrettes, as Prof. von Wesendonck and others have shown, bear a strong positive charge. It is true that they also may be suspected of containing small fragments of metal torn from the terminal. But the energy with which they are emitted is so great that they will pierce a considerable thickness of any dielectric—e.g., a centimetre of solid paraffin—and by passing through this they should be strained from all traces of ponderable matter as in a filter. The aigrettes which thus emerge from the dielectric preserve their luminosity, which is perhaps evidence of their power of inflaming the nitrogen of the air; and until they have been exhaustively examined, it may be as well not to assume that the positive electron is so essentially different from its negative congener.

While one of the main pillars of the extreme electronic theory is thus open to the suspicion of unsoundness, M. Poincaré attacks the somewhat topheavy superstructure that has been raised on them. By a series of cogent arguments, he shows, with his usual lucidity, that if it be conceded that all matter is composed of electrons and nothing else, and that all mass is electromagnetic, hardly any of the laws of motion are valid. Action and reaction are said to be equal and opposite; but if a body emitting light or heat moves continuously in one direction, as an electron is said to do, the pressure caused by such emission ought to cause a resistance to which no equivalent reaction can be found on any other body. In like manner the Newtonian law of inertia prescribes that a body in motion will move in a straight line and with uniform velocity unless acted upon by some external force. But the calculations of Sommerfeld and others have shown that an electron moving with a speed greater than that of light undergoes retardation without any assignable cause. Nor does it require much demonstration that a system of mechanics founded on the invariability of mass must be upset by a theory which asserts mass to be variable. And all the while there remains outside all theories of the ether the force of gravitation, which has hitherto defied interpretation.

It follows from the considerations here touched upon that inquiry into the structure of the atom is at present premature, and that the model suggested by Prof. J. J. Thomson can have merely a speculative value. It was pointed out in these columns last year (see *The Athenæum*, No. 4041) that the analogy he would draw between the grouping of Mayer's floating magnets and the valency and polarity of the elements when arranged according to Prof. Mendeléeff's Periodic Law was mainly imaginary, inasmuch as neither valency nor polarity is a fundamental property of any chemical element. Since then other facts have come to light which strengthen this contention. Dr. W. Ternent Cooke has shown—apparently with Sir William Ramsay's approval—that helium and argon, instead of being non-valent, as Prof. Thomson's analogy demands, can be made to form unstable compounds with

zinc and cadmium respectively, and both of them perhaps with mercury. Mr. C. E. Fawcitt has also proved that gold, silver, and platinum, when rapidly cooled and annealed, become electropositive to other specimens of the same metals in the crystalline state. If, as Prof. Thomson is now inclined to think, the number of corpuscles within the atom corresponds to its atomic weight and determines its polarity, he must therefore believe that the atomic weight of annealed and electropositive gold differs from that of gold which has not been annealed and has remained electronegative, and that the alteration of polarity has been brought about by the loss of one or more corpuscles. One would like to know whither, in that case, he imagines the lost corpuscles to have gone. But, be that as it may, Prof. Thomson's argument demands that, if a corpuscle be withdrawn from such an element as gold, the element not only changes its polarity, but also becomes not gold, but some other element.

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—June 13.—Sir Archibald Geikie, President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. Davies, J. Francis, C. R. Hewitt, O. T. Jones, E. A. de Lantour, J. M. Milton, J. Cowie Simpson, jun., and R. Fletcher Whiteside were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'Recent Folds produced as a Result of Flow,' by Prof. W. J. Sollas, and 'The Crag of Iceland, an Intercalation in the Basalt-Formation,' by Dr. Helgi Petursson.—Mr. G. Abbott, in exhibiting specimens and photographs of limestones showing band- and ball-structure, remarked that at Fulwell Hill Quarries, near Sunderland, some of the uppermost beds of the Magnesian Limestone presented this peculiarity.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—June 14.—Lord Avebury, President, in the chair.—This being an evening appointed for the election of Fellows, no papers were read. Mr. William Munro Tapp, LL.D., was elected Fellow.

June 21.—Sir H. H. Howorth, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson and Mr. E. W. Swanton communicated some account of prehistoric graves found at Haslemere, and more especially of pottery from Late-Celtic graves. The paper consisted of a description of various prehistoric objects which had been collected at Haslemere during the last six years. They were in two separate groups. The first consisted chiefly of neolithic flint implements which had rewarded the search of several observers; amongst them Mr. Allen Chandler was mentioned as the most successful. A beautiful series of nearly a dozen barbed arrow-heads of good workmanship had been picked up in ploughed fields in various spots during the last six years. These objects had previously been thought to be of very rare occurrence in the Haslemere district. Mr. Chandler had also found several grinding stones, and he and Mr. Swanton had made a large collection of pigmy flints. The latter had been found chiefly by digging in sand on the margin of a small pool on the summit of Blackdown. At this spot an enormous number of flakes and cast-away fragments with some cores had been found. It was evident that a factory had been worked there, and it was of much interest to observe that the raw material must have been carried a distance of nearly ten miles, since the hill itself is of sandstone and far from any chalk rock containing flint. The authors remarked that for many years it had been known at Haslemere that flint implements were to be found, and that they were especially frequent near to springs or ponds high up on the hills; until recently, however, none exhibiting much finish had been found. The paper described the general character of the Haslemere district, stating that it consisted chiefly of Lower Greensand, which formed some of the highest hills in the south of England, Blackdown and Hindhead each being well on to a thousand feet. At the foot of the hills lay the valley of the Wealden clay, and north, south, and west were escarpments of chalk. The sandstone contained much chert and a very

hard ironstone. A specimen of interest on account of its rarity consisted of an implement—axe or hammer head—perforated for a handle, made from the iron sandstone. As its owner had placed it on loan in the Haslemere Museum, this could not be brought before the Society. The second part of the paper described an urn field which had been unearthed not far from Haslemere town. The digging out and the restoration of specimens had been conducted under Mr. Swanton's superintendence. A large number of cinerary urns and accessory vessels had been found, some of them in good condition. The best of these were produced for inspection. They had evidently been made on a wheel, though none of them showed the pin-mark. All the urns contained broken and charred fragments of bone, but the accessory vessels held nothing more than the sand which had fallen into them subsequent to deposition. As evidence of the completeness of the cremation, it was mentioned that none of the fragments was blackened. With these fragments a few rude flint implements, little more than flakes, were found, but with two exceptions no trace of metal. One of the exceptions was a much-eroded fragment of bronze, and the other a plug of lead which closed a hole in the bottom of one of the urns. The urns had stood upright, and were covered by saucers of pottery in two instances. One of these covering lids was of red Samian ware, but much eroded by scaling. Some of the vessels showed rude ornamentation, chevron, &c. In one instance the site of the fire was identified by the charred material on a rude pavement of stones. The authors were inclined to refer the pottery to a Late-Celtic period, anterior to the Roman invasion. They commented upon the remarkable absence of iron, and the exceedingly slight presence of bronze; also upon the exceptional use of lead, and the employment of Samian and other ware as cover-lids. They expressed their indebtedness to several owners of property who had allowed them to dig, and mentioned that all that had been found was open to public inspection in the Haslemere Museum.—Mr. Philip Norman, treasurer, and Mr. F. W. Reader read the first part of a paper on recent discoveries in connexion with Roman London.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

—June 20.—Mr. Compton, V.P., in the chair.—A tea-caddy of a very ornate character, probably of the time of Queen Anne, was exhibited; but the allegation that it had belonged to Anne Boleyn obviously could not be entertained, as tea was not introduced into Europe until the early part of the seventeenth century, and Pepys, in his 'Diary,' mentions it as something new in his day.—Mr. Patrick, Hon. Sec., read, in the absence of the author, a paper by Mr. Richard Mann on 'The Roman Residency at Darent, Kent.' This Roman villa, admittedly the largest ever discovered in England, was excavated in 1894-5 by Mr. G. Payne, at the expense of Mrs. Rolls Hoare, under an agreement made by Mr. Clowes, her son-in-law, with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the owners of the property, and is fully described in *Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. xxii. It has been suggested in some quarters that this vast building bears evidence, in the curious system of tanks and drainage, of having been a trading establishment, probably that of a "fuller or dyer"; but Mr. Mann questioned whether it may not with greater probability be described as having been the central station, or head-quarters, of an official having control of the surrounding district, and in a very ingeniously arranged plan of the remains he showed how this might have been the case.—Mr. Patrick opened the discussion, and was disposed to agree with the author of the paper that the buildings were far too extensive to have formed the residence of a dyer or tanner, and were more likely from their position—adjacent to the Watling Street and in the centre of a group of Roman buildings which extended over the surrounding neighbourhood—to have been the official residence of the governing authority of the district. Mr. R. H. Forster did not agree with the early date attributed to the remains by Mr. Mann (early in Roman occupation), and considered that the large building supposed by him to have been the quarters of a body of cavalry was more likely to have been the stables of a *mansio*, or posting house, on the road to London. He also urged that the absence of any fortifications precluded the

idea that the buildings were the residence of a civil or military governor, particularly at the early period assigned to them.—This was the closing meeting of the session.

ROYAL NUMISMATIC.—June 21.—*Annual Meeting.*—Sir John Evans, President, in the chair.—The Reports of the Council and of the Hon. Treasurer were read and approved.—It was announced that the medal of the Society had been awarded by the Council to Commendatore Francesco Gnechi, Vice-President of the Numismatic Society of Italy, for his services to numismatics, more especially in connexion with the Roman Imperial series. As Commendatore Gnechi was unable to be present, the President handed the medal to Mr. H. A. Grueber, one of the hon. secretaries, with a request that he would convey it to Commendatore Gnechi with the good wishes of the Society.—The President gave his annual address, in which he passed in review the work done by the Society, especially in respect to the various papers which had been read and to the numerous and interesting exhibitions at the meetings. He also briefly noticed the more important numismatic publications which had appeared since June of last year. With respect to the losses of the Society by death, the names more particularly mentioned were those of Mr. Richard A. Hoblyn, a member since 1873, who had contributed some valuable articles on English numismatics; of Mr. T. W. Kitt, the author of a work entitled 'Papers for Beginners,' a useful treatise on the first principles of numismatics; and of Mr. C. E. G. Mackerell, a diligent collector of British and Roman coins, who had bequeathed to the Society 50*l.*, and to the Trustees of the British Museum three coins of great rarity and in magnificent preservation, viz., the pattern crown of Cromwell by Thomas Simon, the "Reddite" crown of Charles II. by the same artist, and the pattern crown, 1662, of Charles II. by Jan Roettier.—A ballot having been taken for the Council and officers for the ensuing year, Sir John Evans was re-elected President; Sir Henry Howorth and Sir Augustus Prevost, Vice-Presidents; Mr. W. C. Boyd, Hon. Treasurer; and Mr. H. A. Grueber and Mr. F. A. Walters, Hon. Secretaries.

STATISTICAL.—June 19.—*Annual Meeting.*—Major Craigie in the chair.—Sir Richard Martin was elected President for the ensuing session, and the following were elected Council and Officers: Mr. W. M. Acworth, Mr. A. H. Bailey, Sir J. Athelstane Baines, Mr. H. Birchenough, Mr. A. L. Bowley, Sir Edward W. Brabrook, Mr. G. G. Chisholm, Sir Ernest Clarke, Mr. T. A. Coghlan, Mr. N. L. Cohen, Mr. R. F. Crawford, Dr. Reginald Duffield, Sir William C. Dunbar, Prof. F. Y. Edgeworth, Mr. A. Wilson Fox, Lord George F. Hamilton, Mr. F. Hendriks, Mr. A. W. W. King, Prof. C. S. Loch, Mr. Bernard Mallet, Sir Shirley F. Murphy, Mr. F. G. P. Neison, Mr. L. L. Price, Sir Lesley C. Probyn, Mr. R. H. Rew, Dr. W. N. Shaw, Mr. D. A. Thomas, Mr. T. A. Welton, Dr. A. Whitelegge, Mr. G. Udney Yule; Treasurer, Sir R. Biddulph Martin; Hon. Secretaries, Sir J. Athelstane Baines, Mr. R. H. Rew, Mr. A. Wilson Fox; Hon. Foreign Secretary, Sir J. A. Baines.—The Society's Guy Medal in silver was awarded to Dr. W. N. Shaw for his paper entitled 'The Seasons in the British Isles since 1878,' read before the Society in March, 1905.—The subject of the essays for the "Howard Medal" competition, 1906-7, was announced to be 'The Reformative Effect in Criminality of Recent Prison Administration.' This competition is open to the public, and the conditions may be ascertained at the Society's offices.—Prof. Edgeworth subsequently read a paper on 'The Generalized Law of Error,' in the discussion upon which Mr. A. L. Bowley, Dr. W. N. Shaw, Prof. A. W. Flux, and Mr. G. Udney Yule took part.

FARADAY.—June 12.—Mr. W. Murray Morrison in the chair.—A paper on 'The Electrolytic Deposition of Zinc, using Rotating Electrodes,' by Dr. T. Slater Price and Mr. G. H. B. Judge, was communicated by Dr. F. Mollwo Perkin.—Dr. Perkin described 'A Simple Form of Rotating Cathode for Electro-Chemical Analysis.'—Mr. S. Binning and Dr. Perkin read a paper on 'The Electrolysis of Solutions of Thiocyanates in Pyridine and in Acetone.'

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- MON. Royal Institution, 5.—General Monthly Meeting.
 Faraday, 8.—'The Oxidation of Atmospheric Nitrogen in Electric Arcs,' Prof. K. Birkeland; 'Preliminary Report on the Experiments made at Saint-Sic Marie on the Smelting of Canadian Iron Ores by the Electro-Thermic Process,' Dr. E. Haanel; 'Electrolysis of Dilute Solutions of Acids and Alkalies at Low Potentials: Dissolving of Platinum at the Anode by a Direct Current,' Dr. G. Senter.
- WED. Archaeological Institute, 4.—'The Cistercian Abbey of Beaulieu, in the County of Southampton,' Mr. W. H. St. John Hope.
- THURS. Chemical, 8.30.—'Saponaria, a New Glucoside, coloured Blue with Iodine,' Mr. G. Barger; 'The Constitution of Umbellulone,' Mr. F. Tutin; 'Electrolytic Oxidation,' Mr. H. D. Law; 'The Action of Ethyl Iodide and of Propyl Iodide on the Disodium Derivative of Diacetylacetone,' Mr. A. W. Bain.

Science Gossip.

THE Council of the Society of Arts are holding a conversazione next Tuesday evening in the gardens of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park.

THE successor of the late M. Pierre Curie at the French Académie des Sciences in the "Section de Physique" is M. Gezez, Professor of Chemistry at the École Centrale, who was elected this week by 37 out of 56 votes. M. Bouty received 15 votes.

THE earth will be in aphelion on the morning of the 3rd prox. The moon will be full at 4h. 28m. (Greenwich time) on the morning of the 6th, and new about an hour after noon on the 21st; she will be in perigee on the 4th. A partial eclipse of the sun will take place on the 21st; which will be invisible in Europe, and best seen in the South Atlantic Ocean. An occultation of γ Libræ will take place on the evening of the 2nd, and of γ Tauri on the morning of the 17th. The planet Mercury will be at greatest eastern elongation from the sun on the 15th, and visible in the evening during the greater part of the month, moving from the constellation Cancer into Leo. Venus is very brilliant in the evening, not setting at Greenwich until past 10 o'clock; on the 5th prox. she will enter Leo, passing very near its brightest star Regulus on the 14th, and be in conjunction with the moon on the 24th. Mars is not visible next month, being in conjunction with the sun on the 15th. Jupiter is near ζ Tauri (the bull's southern horn), rises earlier each morning, and will be near the moon on the 19th. Saturn is in Pisces, and rises now about 11 o'clock in the evening, earlier each night.

THE small planet No. 526, announced as having been discovered by Prof. Max Wolf at Heidelberg on March 14th, 1904, is found to be identical with one discovered in 1901, though not the one which was at first thought probable.

AN ephemeris of Finlay's periodical comet for the appearance now expected is published by M. Schulhof in No. 4100 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*. According to his calculation, it is now in the constellation Aquarius, moving in a north-easterly direction. But though its theoretical brightness is greater now than when it was discovered in 1886, we shall probably have to wait for the next absence of moonlight before it will be seen. The period is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ years, and the comet was observed at the return in 1893, but not at that in the winter of 1899-1900, when it was unfavourably placed.

THE *Astronomischer Jahresbericht*, which was started by the late Prof. W. F. Wislicenus of Strassburg, and edited by him during the six years 1899-1904, has this year been taken up by Prof. Berberich, of Berlin, and the seventh volume, containing a careful abstract of all astronomical papers and publications which appeared in 1905, has recently been issued. The total number of articles amounts to 2,336, and the editor's name is a sufficient guarantee for the accuracy of the work, which should prove of the greatest value to all students of astronomical history and

literature. He acknowledges the assistance of the Astronomische Gesellschaft, which had also been accorded to his predecessor, Prof. Wislicenus, an excellent portrait of whom is given as a frontispiece to the present volume.

THE *Berliner Astronomisches Jahrbuch* for 1908 has recently been received, the editor, as in previous years, being Prof. Bauschinger. No change of importance has been made in the data or tables from the preceding year. Particulars are given of the total solar eclipse of January 3rd, the central line of which will pass over land only in some islets in the Pacific Ocean, as was mentioned lately by the Superintendent of 'The Nautical Almanac' in a paper read before the British Astronomical Association; also of two annular solar eclipses, on June 28th and December 23rd respectively. Elements are given of the orbits of 573 small planets, together with ephemerides of 44 which come into opposition in the present year.

FINE ARTS

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Greece. Painted by John Fulleylove, described by Rev J. A. McClymont. (A. & C. Black).—Mr. Fulleylove's companion volume on Palestine was noticed some time ago in these columns. The process adopted for reproducing his coloured sketches has varied results. Some of the pictures are decidedly pretty, and there are good sky and cloud effects in many of them; but the *tout ensemble* is not like Greece, especially in the over-use of browns and blues, nor is the blurred look of the nearer view, which in Greece is almost always very clear and precise. There is also a want of proper distribution in the subjects. There are far too many of Athens in comparison with the rest; and the grandeur of Phocis or of Arcadia is wanting in the pictures taken from that splendid scenery. The theatre of Epidaurus is hardly recognizable, and the 'Lantern of Demosthenes' seems rather copied from an old print than from the actual state of the monument and its surroundings. To those who have not seen the realities the book is, however, very attractive, and gives, at least, a clear notion of Mr. Fulleylove's subjectivity in his art.

The text has been entrusted to a gentleman who tells us that his main sources of information are Grote and Mr. Frazer (both admirable authorities), and that he has had the advantage of visiting the country. He has, perhaps, taken one of the popular tours, for there is not much observation of his own recorded, and the body of the book is history and archaeology derived from a very honest study of the two masters. But are these an adequate equipment for a writer on modern Greece? If the author could not supply more than a few scanty observations of his own, why not have recourse to the dozens of excellent picturesque books of travel, both English and French, which form a whole library in themselves? Mr. Horton's delightful 'In Argolis' (reviewed in these columns) would have supplied more suitable material than the ponderous tomes consulted. Need we mention Ed. About and Ch. Diehl among the French, assuming that Fiedler and Ross and Ernst Curtius are in an unknown tongue? Why not quote the delightful older travellers, Clarke, Dodwell, Leake, whose descriptions of many of the monuments are true at this day? Why not Sir R. Jebb's sketch or Dr. Mahaffy's 'Rambles and Studies'? Grote's great work, written in a London study, is devoid of local colour, and Mr.

Frazer is wholly devoted to antiquities. On these, however, he is the very best of guides, as Grote is on old Greek politics, and accordingly Dr. McClymont has gathered for the reader a good deal of sound information on the history and the literature of Greece. Wherever Grote is antiquated by modern research, the book before us is so also, and there are slips in names which lead one to think that the printer is not wholly responsible. There is a bit of newer information in the author's remarks on the language of modern Greece, and the controversy between those who desire to revive the classical tongue and those who desire to perfect the actual speech and make it a literary idiom. He is also entertaining on the wonderful *émeute* about the translation of the New Testament into modern Greek. But he perplexes us by quoting without comment the remark of a local archbishop "that if the newspapers would introduce but one classical word each day, they would add 70,000 words to the language in the course of 20 years." The arithmetic of this wonderful sentence speaks for itself, but what are we to say of a language which adds 70,000 words to its ordinary vocabulary. Has his Grace ever calculated how many words he uses in his own speech? Has he ever read how many words an author like Shakespeare employs? And did our author apply his mind to the problem when he set down this sentence?

This handsome book is but another testimony to the eternal fascination exercised by Greece, and to the sound belief that Greek studies will never grow obsolete till our civilization begins to wane.

Old Pewter. By Malcolm Bell. (Newnes.)—Mr. Malcolm Bell states frankly in his preface that this volume appeals far more to the public by its numerous and carefully chosen illustrations than by the information conveyed in the letterpress. The chief feature is certainly the excellent series of upwards of a hundred plates, in some of which the quiet silvery sheen of genuine well-scoured pewter is cunningly reproduced. Most of these plates include several objects, though each detail is perfectly clear and distinct, with the result that the pictures of pewter surpass both in importance and number those of far more expensive volumes, such as Mr. Massé's 'Pewter Plate.' This book certainly ought to be in the hands of every collector of genuine old pewter, for here are illustrated a wealth of good examples of pepper-boxes, mustard-pots, salt-cellers, flagons, tappit-hens, toddy-ladles, soup-ladles, every variety of spoon, altar vessels, ewers, cruetstands, bowls, plates, porringers, barbers' bowls, tea and coffee pots, eggcups, sugar basins, canisters, tobacco-boxes, snuff-boxes, and inkpots, as well as a variety of foreign *bénitiers*. In his modest preface Mr. Malcolm Bell states that he makes no pretence of laying before the reader any entirely novel discoveries concerning pewter, and fully acknowledges his indebtedness to other writers, such as Messrs. Starkie Gardner, Welch, Massé, and Ingleby Wood. Nevertheless, his various brief chapters show a considerable mastery of, and love for, his subject.

One of the weak points of the letterpress is the 'Useful Books of Reference,' a list which occupies only a single page immediately before the index. In it are copied several blunders made by Mr. Massé in the bibliography of his larger work, and the omissions are glaring. To turn a well-known layman, the late Mr. J. E. Nightingale, who wrote so well on the church plate of Dorset and Wiltshire, into a "Reverend" is a trivial mistake; but it shows that Massé's

list has been followed, and that the books have not been consulted at first hand. It will surprise many to learn that the "Rev. J. E. Nightingale" also wrote a book on 'The Church Plate of the County of Norfolk'; whereas the real writer on much of the plate of that county is not so much as mentioned. In short, the only works named in this insignificant list that deal with church pewter are wrongly cited; whilst the important books that deal with such pewter for the county of Kent, London, Middlesex, Essex, Suffolk, Pembroke, and Hereford, and the diocese of Llandaff, are ignored. Mr. Redman's unpretentious, but distinctly valuable book on pewter in general ought also to have been included, even in the briefest list of such works.

Had the writer been a zealous antiquary, he would have found very much hitherto unnoticed material as to the use, supply, and cost of pewter in England in mediæval days. But we are glad to notice that he has made a special feature of the valuable and interesting hoard of pewter found by the Rev. C. H. Engleheart on a Roman site near Andover in 1897, and given three plates of these dishes and vessels. The peculiar interest attaching to this hoard is that it almost certainly represents a set of sacramental vessels of the Romano-British Church, concealed in the fourth century.

Medallic Illustrations of the History of Great Britain and Ireland. Plates XXXI.-XL. (Printed by order of the Trustees of the British Museum.)—Although justifiable complaints continue to be made of the dilatoriness of the British Museum authorities in cataloguing or duly dealing with British coins, it is pleasant to find that the medals of the national collection pertaining to Great Britain and Ireland are being adequately treated. The present set of ten folio plates, issued in a portfolio with accompanying sheets of letterpress, deals with a very large number of memorial medals and badges of the seventeenth century. The representations, after a photographic process, are adequate and clear, and the brief printed account sufficient. But complaint may be made of their sequence or arrangement, which is apparently the result of haphazard, or at all events on no intelligible principle. Thus on plates xxxi. and xxxii. are late memorials of Charles I. and his queen, struck at the close of his life or shortly afterwards; but on plate xxxiv. we go back to such pieces as James I. and Prince Charles, 1625, Gustavus Adolphus and his queen, 1630, and others of slightly later date. In the main, however, the plates of this section refer to the close of the reign of Charles I., to the Commonwealth and its victories.

A large silver memorial, issued in 1649, well executed in Saxony by Heinrich Reitz the younger, bears delicate representations of Charles I. and his queen, and on the reverse a many-headed monster, symbolizing the variety of passions then agitating the people of England.

Several examples are given of Charles I. and Henrietta Maria on silver counters, issued respectively in 1632 and 1636, belonging to sets of thirty-six pieces, bearing figures of English sovereigns from Edward the Confessor to Charles I., with royal connexions to make up the full number. The examples of the Commonwealth period include, in addition to Cromwell, Fairfax, and Ireton, medals commemorative of men of much less renown, such as Henry Scobell, clerk of the Parliament, and John Lilburne, a factious demagogue. The battle of Dunbar, 1650, was signalized by medals in gold, silver, copper, and lead, issued as a military reward

for those present at the engagement. The dies for the larger of these medals were discovered "somewhat recently" (why not the exact date?) in pulling down a wall at Hursley, which had formed part of a residence of Richard Cromwell. A fine series of medals commemorates the sea victories of 1653; whilst a medal of singular beauty and delicacy was struck in silver to perpetuate the memory of the strict league of amity entered into on April 15th, 1654, between the two republics of England and Holland; it was struck in Holland, and was the work of Sebastian Dadler. Some other medals of the same peace are lacking both in grace and execution. Later medals record the battle of Dunkirk, 1658, and the death of Cromwell. A large variety of small silver badges of Charles II., intended to be worn secretly as tokens of royalist convictions, shortly before the Restoration, are also illustrated.

A Handbook of Greek and Roman Sculpture. By E. von Mach, Ph.D. To accompany a Collection of Reproductions of Greek and Roman Sculpture. (Boston, U.S., Bureau of University Travel.)—The title of this book is misleading, for it is not a handbook in the usually accepted meaning of the word. This is the more to be regretted, since the volume, and especially the plates that accompany it, are likely to prove very useful to students. The plates consist of 500 photographic reproductions, on a small scale, of Greek and Roman sculpture. They bear, in fact, much the same relation to a work like the splendid but cumbersome Brunn-Brückmann 'Denkmäler' that M. Reinach's "pocket edition" bears to the volumes of Clarac. Dr. von Mach's selection is not, however, identical with Brunn's; it is, on the whole, very well made, and includes, as well as almost all the best-known works, a great many that are less familiar, even to archaeologists. The reproductions are mostly good; in a few cases the scale is too small to show the modelling clearly; but the addition of a considerable number of heads serves to give more detail where it is most wanted.

The volume of text is to a great extent a catalogue to correspond with the 500 plates. It would, indeed, have been better if the author had made it more definitely a catalogue of his selection, after the manner of Friedrichs-Wolters's catalogue of the Berlin casts. But, for no apparent reason, he gives up the catalogue form after No. 348. Possibly it may not be necessary for the grave reliefs; but for the portraits and heads a brief discussion of the date and style of each, and a quotation of authorities, are wanted by any student, and are only imperfectly supplied in the running text. The Preface apologizes for the brevity of the latter pages; but the space could easily have been gained by greater simplicity and conciseness in the catalogue portion; such conciseness would have been an improvement, and, coupled with more accuracy in expression, would have increased the value of the book.

The frequent inaccuracies, both in Greek and English forms, may be due, in part, to the printing; but they tend to shake the confidence of the reader. A complete list of these would be tedious; one or two examples must suffice. On p. 64 we find mention of "the tiara of Tissaphernes in the Louvre, and the Tenagra figures in Boston," and on p. 269 "Lysikratas the victor and Euantes, the archon." Adjectives such as "Skopadean" and "Pergamenian," forms like "Hesperide" and "Galations," "diviniton" and "resortful,"

are found side by side with such expressions as "devise" (noun), "back of" (preposition), "stocky," and the now familiar "dump"; we hear of the "identification of a statue with an artist," of the "unreality of a body showing through a garment," and so on. These show not merely deficiency in expression, but also lack of clearness in thought. A peculiarly unfortunate term, which recurs more than once, is "apotygmata or bib." And the student turning over the plates will be puzzled not merely by such variations of spelling as "Damophon" and "Dama-phon," but by finding reliefs from the same building attributed on consecutive plates to the Treasury of the Cnidians and the Treasury of the Siphnians. It is true there is a doubt as to which it is, but this is not a good way to record the divergence of opinions. Nor are the references to earlier writers in all cases correct. Thus the credit—if it be a credit—of assigning the 'Apollo Belvedere' to Leochares is assigned to M. Collignon, but that author is careful to say he is quoting Dr. Winter on the matter. Though Dr. von Mach expressly refrains from references to the ordinary text-books, there are references to "E. von Mach's Greek Sculpture" on almost every other page. Are not the indexes of that work complete enough for these also to have been dispensed with? ¶

A criticism such as this may seem unduly severe; but the book is worth it. The selection of plates must have cost a great deal of trouble, and the result is really a boon to students. If the author would add to them a complete and concise catalogue, in simple and intelligible language, he would increase the gratitude that is his due. What he has done is both too little and too much; and the faults that have been indicated tend to make any scholar view the book with a distrust which, on the whole, it does not merit. The publishers would do well to supply a stronger case to hold the 500 plates. The present one is soon broken by their weight, and it is not easy to improvise a satisfactory substitute.

MANETS FROM THE FAURE COLLECTION AT SULLY'S GALLERIES.

THIS exhibition (open till July 7th) is an important occasion for Londoners who wish to study a much-talked-of painter, as to whose true position in the hierarchy of art opinion is still, even at this hour, somewhat divided. The truth is that while he is everywhere famous in England, he has been very little seen among us: his enormous reputation with us is built on a very small basis of positive knowledge, but buttressed, bracketed, and underpinned by twenty years of literary appreciation. Such artificial supports must in the long run come away, and those who are solicitous for the safety of the structure will do well to provide against this contingency, to lose no opportunity of adding to the basis of actual knowledge on which ultimately an artist's reputation must rest. While the opportunities of familiar acquaintance with Manet's work are as rare as they are at present, it may seem premature to clear away the mass of hearsay evidence on which he has hitherto been judged, and which, after all, in so far as it is inspired by honest enthusiasm, is entitled to a certain weight. It has come, however, to carry such weight at the present day that the average modest man is hypnotized by the

mere name of Manet, and forces himself to see in any work signed by the magic name qualities that he would never discern were it signed by Brown or Robinson.

Dangerous as must ever be such a state of things, as contributing to that stifling atmosphere of humbug that hangs so sadly round the appreciation of art, yet of all his confrères of this period of French art none quite so well as Manet deserves to have opened for him such a special credit account. He seems to have expressly made up his mind to set down nothing in paint that the average eye could see for itself, and in this hatred for the ordinary he cared little enough that his pictures should be attractive to the usual picture-loving public—hardly, sometimes, that they should be intelligible. To that public, accustomed to a more conventional art, the present exhibition is useful as offering them a canvas that is a sort of introduction to the appreciation of Manet. *La Vierge au Lapin*, after Titian's famous picture in the Louvre, is a delightful work, its facture very unlike that of Titian, yet retaining much of his splendour. The blues are not very good—indeed painted directly in solid paint as they are, could hardly have the quality of Titian's more craftsmanlike procedure; yet with this reservation the colour is fine, with something of the limpid clarity of execution of an aquarelle. Clearly, if the painter of such a picture afterwards abandoned this simply sufficient manner of representing men and women in the old conventional way, it was from no lack of capacity in that direction. Impatient of its artificial shifts and devices (now a falsely visible, but explanatory outline, now the discreet suppression of a harsh transition), he did so abandon it in favour of a manner of rendering facts based more closely on reality, or, let us rather say, on appearances, for the devotees of an older art will hardly recognize in this exhibition any "reality" to compare with the easy naturalness of Titian; and their conservatism is not surprising, for the man who renders with great perfection Nature's qualities of unity, dignity, suavity, by means analogous to hers, but by no means identical, has an evident advantage over one who pretends to literal truth, whom we can follow step by step to catch him tripping. The man in the street is never so severe as on a painter who is right on every point but one. "Even I," he exclaims, "can see that it is wrong"—never thinking of the slipshod realization he accepts every day, because no one thing in it is right enough to show how wrong the others are.

Nor is this the only reason that would make Manet a difficult painter for the average art-lover to accept, were it not that he comes as a genius so highly accredited. The main reason is not his literalism, but a certain aristocratic reserve that makes that literalism incomplete. Few men have more hated saying the obvious, and when he could find nothing fresh or interesting to say on the subject of detail, he had a lordly way of leaving it out, which is sometimes splendid, but sometimes merely chaotic, and is, to speak broadly, the one or the other according as his subject enabled him to simplify it into the large silhouette that he mastered so well, or left on his hands a patchwork of small forms which he was never very good at marshalling. The Rochefort portrait may be taken as an example of the one, or the rather clumsy *Buveur d'Absinthe*. On the other hand, *Le Port de Bordeaux* is a kind of subject which, if you do not study its detail thoroughly and affectionately, resolves itself into a multitudinous riot of summary brushstrokes, not sufficiently varied to be other than confusing. A painter like Boudin,

while hardly attempting closer realization, would have held the thread of interest in such loose and suggestive painting by dint of his absorbed delight in the subject. Here there is something like contempt, as though the thing deserved no closer study. Yet even here, in a picture that would get scant attention if it were not by Manet, there is something to reward that attention in the curious poignancy of colour that scarcely ever deserts this painter.

His colour is not luxuriously delightful, like that of most of the great colourists of an earlier day, but is always refreshing. "Dites-moi ça vertement" was a literary direction quoted by Stevenson as having been one of the most stimulating he ever received; and Manet would seem to have felt the virtue of the adverb. To push further the inquiry as to wherein precisely lies this curiously refreshing quality of his colour is a delicate matter; but perhaps the secret lies in his power of painting undeniably in colour, yet at the same time retaining the full "black and white" force of nature. The way of fine colourists has been rather to minimize this "black and white" contrast, making the greater part of the picture an almost flat field of slightly varying inlaid tints, the richness of their variety enhanced by their being almost of the same tone—a field in which the different planes and different objects disengage each from the other as much by differences of colour as by differences of tone. Manet, on the contrary, has a tremendous range of tone, and yet never appears to paint in tinted monochrome; nor is this due to the use of any exceptional range of colour with very brilliant pigments, but entirely to his great breadth in grouping his tints. By comparison with him almost any other painter is a little sleepy, though there are plenty of painters beside whom he will seem *àpre* and disagreeable.

Yet beauty of a kind he can certainly offer, thanks to an admirable sense of the proper use of paint. It is on this side that, like most successful innovators, he has a fund of conservatism, not so much in evidence in this exhibition as in some of his work. Indeed, when it is considered what ancient history the movement he headed is now become, it is strange to find that the average frequenter of picture exhibitions still gets something of a shock from the sight of these pictures. Yet even he will admit the beauty of the *Grand Canal* (in which Manet shows that he has blues of his own hardly less beautiful than those of Titian), and the mastery of the great still-life *La Brioche*, with its marvellous rendering of some blue plums, its tactless insistence on the light contour of some peaches. *Le bon Bock*, the most famous of the pictures, has a marvellously painted head which touches on mastery; but at a distance the figure fails to disengage naturally, for all its clever draughtsmanship of podgy legs and body.

In the same galleries, and fitly to be considered with the Manets, is an unusually fine portrait of a lady by Goya, of the same silky texture of paint as the 'Dr. Péral' at the National Gallery. The dress is a beautiful piece of modelling in semi-transparent black; the head, too, is well characterized, but lacks just that happy conjunction of type that makes 'Dr. Péral,' with the face of a smooth and subtle plotter, the very man to be rendered by such a technique.

THE NEW ENGLISH ART CLUB.

THIS exhibition is not of a high level of all-round excellence, but is to be visited for a few admirable pictures. Mr. Wilson Steer's

Music Room is perhaps the finest figure picture he has yet done. Executed in a technique which we regard as a little mistaken, it is nevertheless a most beautiful work, delightfully in tune, handled with a rare combination of breadth and delicacy. The standing figure comes as near to being a life-like representation of a human creature as Mr. Steer has permitted in his work; and the design, with its touch of severity in the lines, the steady square form in the centre from the sunlit window, is one of the best, and certainly one of the pleasantest, that have been achieved by an impressionist whose design arises strictly from the form and colour offered by a natural "effect" of accidental lighting. Alongside this very pleasurable picture Mr. Walter Sickert's *Noctes Ambrosiane* seems rather meagre and unattractive; it has, however, a certain distinction that verges on beauty, and is full of observation set down with singular succinctness and a certain historical severity by no means devoid of humour. It is a picture that may be relied upon to retain its charm and value.

Another and more closely modern painter of history is Mr. Muirhead Bone, whose *Construction of an Underground* shows him in his familiar mastery, in his familiar genre. To any one who has witnessed the urban transformations of the last few years it must have been evident that with reasonable luck there would arise a Muirhead Bone. He has made himself so definitely the poet of the builder's derrick and the housebreaker's desolation as to become identified with architectural catastrophe. One of the first reflections that followed our natural regret or the San Francisco disaster was that here was Nature catering for Mr. Muirhead Bone.

A third picture that has something of the same historic value is Mr. Rothenstein's *Jews in the Synagogue*, and all three painters are to be congratulated on having found a line of work with some *raison d'être* beyond the lyrical impulse or the photographic habit. Mr. Conder's *Sea Nymphs* is an example of the one, not without decorative charm, and it contrasts rather favourably with Mr. Sargent's *Swiss Tourists*, which is an example of the other, and for which there is little to be said in spite of its vulgar cleverness. Mr. Rothenstein's 'Synagogue' is a very serious work, which suffers a little from a rather piecemeal execution, the considerable variety in its impasto being somewhat sporadic, instead of arising from the large structure of the group. The red curtain, too, is unfortunate, though one sees its value as giving a sort of casting vote between the rival claims of two standing figures that echo one another with awkward similarity. The picture is very valuable as saving the reputation of an exhibition that is particularly weak in this direction of serious and careful painting. The absence of the work of Mr. George Thomson and of Mr. Orpen—two men who stand for a sane, if narrow efficiency in the art of painting—is somewhat severely felt, though the painting of Mr. John's *Sir John Brunner* is, for him, curiously like the intense, but rather piecemeal realization that one connects with Mr. Orpen's name. The exhibition shows an unusually large amount of disintegrated painting—witness Mr. Tonks with his *Crystal-gazers* or Mr. Harrison's portrait. Infinitely to be preferred to this sort of thing is Mr. Roger Fry's *Farm in Calvados*, which has more native charm than he usually shows, with no lapse from his standard of technical elegance. Mr. Holmes has something of the same decadent grace: he seems refined and accomplished enough, but wants driving power. Mr. MacColl,

the third pensioner in this home for art critics, is the most vigorous among them, but we have on a previous occasion protested against his retirement into the domain of elegant architectural drawing.

CAIRO MONUMENTS.

IN *The Athenæum* of June 23rd it is stated, in relation to the preservation of the Coptic monuments in Cairo, that the work proceeds somewhat slowly. As it is so easy to make mistakes, it is perhaps well that repairs of the nature undertaken should proceed with deliberation. I have had the pleasure to inspect the works, and can truly say that great care is being taken.

Your readers will be glad to hear of repairs being undertaken at monuments more majestic than any of the Christian churches in Cairo.

The two monasteries near Sohag, the Deir-el-Abiad and the Deir-el-Ahmar, are the most important churches in Egypt. They were in a sorry condition, the north enclosure wall of the Deir-el-Abiad threatening at any moment to crush the church within.

Some three years since I ventured to call Lord Cromer's attention to the precarious state of these buildings. His lordship quickly took the matter in hand, and had an interview with the Patriarch, who undertook to meet a Government grant by subscribing a handsome sum—I think 1,000*l*. Herz Bey, architect to the Comité de Conservation, was quickly on the spot, and such conservative measures were adopted that the buildings are now out of danger, whilst the squalid houses built up inside the ancient walls are removed.

SOMERS CLARKE.

SALES.

MODERN PICTURES AND DRAWINGS.

ON Saturday and Monday last Messrs. Christie held two sales, which were interesting from different points of view. The first consisted of a collection of modern pictures and water-colour drawings, chiefly of the continental schools, the property of a gentleman in Paris. The works were for the most part by artists of the Impressionist School, and by no means good examples.

The few pictures that realized prices of any note were: Joseph Bail, *Scouring the Pot*, 10*g*s. G. Courbet, *A Valley Scene*, 95*g*s. E. Verboeckhoven, *Ewes and Lambs on the Sea Coast*, 235*g*s.; *A Peasant driving Ewes and Lambs into a Shed*, 300*g*s. F. Ziem, *La Corne d'Or*, 260*g*s.

The far more important sale on Monday consisted of the collection of modern pictures and drawings by English artists of Mr. Laurence W. Hodson, of Compton Hall, near Wolverhampton. Many of the artists represented are still living, and are among the men of the New English Art Club or the Independents generally. A number of the drawings and pictures fell to artists, among whom was Mr. G. Clausen, who is understood to be acting on behalf of the National Gallery of Australia at Melbourne; Mr. Whitworth Wallis, of the Birmingham Art Gallery, was also a considerable purchaser. The total realized by the 187 lots was 6,415*l*. 15*s*.

Drawings: W. Blake, *The Day of Destruction*, 80*g*s. Ford Madox Brown, *The Nosegay*, 62*g*s. D. Cox, *Landscape, with figures, and cart crossing a common*, 72*g*s. Sir E. Burne-Jones, *A Sibyl of Rome, cartoon for window at Jesus College, Cambridge*, 58*g*s.; 17 pencil drawings for illustrations and initial letters for an illuminated Missal (never completed), and 12 designs for the 12 books of the *Aeneid*, 410*g*s. S. Palmer, *Driving Cattle through a Wood, sunset*, 52*g*s. D. G. Rossetti, *How They met Themselves, pen-and-ink*, 160*g*s.; Dr. Johnson and the would-be Methodist Ladies at the Mitre, pen-and-ink, 65*g*s. Turner, *Brinkburn Priory, On the Coquet, engraved by Varrall in*

1834 in the 'England and Wales' series, 260*g*s. (at the Gillott sale of 1872 this realized 1,060*g*s.; Mowbray Vale, 110*g*s.); Killiecrankie, the vignette engraved by Miller in 1836 for Scott's 'Tales of a Grandfather,' 160*g*s. (200*g*s. at the Novar sale of 1877); St. Gothard, 75*g*s. E. Vidal, *Youth, pastel*, 52*g*s. J. M. Whistler, *Nelly, pencil*, 80*g*s.

Pictures: Ford Madox Brown, *Chaucer at the Court of Edward III.*, 250*g*s. (Leyland sale, 1892, 100*g*s.; and the Bibby sale, 1899, 85*g*s.). Sir E. Burne-Jones, *The Blue Angel*, 160*g*s. A. Legros, *Cupid and Psyche*, 170*g*s. Sir J. E. Millais, *The Waterfall*, the original outdoor study for the background to the portrait of Ruskin, 210*g*s. C. H. Shannon, *A Souvenir of Van Dyck: Miss Kate Hargood in a Marmion dress*, 100*g*s. P. W. Steer, *The Japanese Gown*, 130*g*s. G. F. Watts, *Neptune's Horses, on panel*, 130*g*s.

Early Italian School: *The Annunciation, on the predella subjects representing the birth, presentation in the Temple, and death of the Virgin, on panel*, 540*g*s.

THE EMILE MOLINIER SALE.

The seven days' sale of the collection of objects of art formed by Émile Molinier, the accomplished expert, who for many years held an appointment in the Louvre, and whose death was noticed in *The Athenæum* of May 12th, has been the Paris sensation of the last few days. It began on Thursday week, and concluded on Thursday. The first four days showed a total of 644,482*fr*. A few only of the principal objects can be here noticed. A triptych by Cranach with the Holy Family realized 122,000*fr*.; a Robbia medallion with the Virgin in adoration, the Infant Jesus supported by an angel, 20,100*fr*. Four pieces of tapestry produced a total of 71,600*fr*.; and a carved ivory group representing the Virgin seated, with the Infant Jesus, Spanish work "de l'époque romaine," 17,100*fr*. Among the sculptures in stone was a statuette of 'Sainte Marthe debout sur la Tarasque,' for which M. Molinier gave 600*fr*., and which now realized 40,000*fr*. A fragment of bas-relief with St. Michael, "les ailes éployées, transperçant la tête du dragon," produced 12,000*fr*., and was purchased for the Louvre, for which was also acquired, at 7,500*fr*., a bust of St. Sebastian, French work of the sixteenth century; whilst a fourteenth-century group of the Virgin holding the Infant Jesus on the left arm brought 10,500*fr*.

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE short editorial article of the July number of *The Burlington Magazine* deals with the vacancy amongst the Trustees of the National Gallery caused by the death of Sir Charles Tennant. It is suggested that the number of Trustees should be increased from eight to twelve, and that representatives of the National Art-Collections Fund should be appointed. Prof. C. J. Holmes publishes a portrait by James Northcote with a note, and also contributes a second article on 'The Development of Rembrandt as an Etcher,' from 1630 to 1636. Mr. Bernhard Sickert writes on 'Modern Painters of 1906,' dealing chiefly with the Royal Academy and the two Salons. Mr. James Weale concludes his account of the exhibition of Netherlandish Art at the Guildhall, and also contributes a note on 'Livina Teerline, Miniaturist.' The Exhibition of Early German Art now being held at the Burlington Fine-Arts Club is dealt with by Mr. Lionel Cust, Mr. Aymer Vallance, and Mr. Charles Ricketts; and Mr. M. L. Solon writes on 'Coloured Pottery of the Renaissance in the Austrian Country.' The American section includes a reproduction of Botticelli's 'Lucretia,' from the Gardner Collection at Boston, with a note by Mr. F. J. Mather, and an article on 'The Puzzle of Recent Auction Prices.'

THE veteran landscape painter Karl Hummel, whose death is announced from Weimar, formed a link with the past in more senses than one, for he was the son of the

musician Johann Nepomuk Hummel, and in his childhood he frequently came into close contact with Goethe, whose grandsons were his playfellows. He was born in 1821 at Weimar, and, after travelling with his father to England and elsewhere, became the pupil of Preller. Though only sixteen at the time, he assisted Preller in his famous pictures from the *Odyssey* at Leipsic. Hummel's landscapes, painted mostly from an ideal point of view, were at one time extremely popular, and are to be found in most of the German galleries. In spite of his great age, he worked almost to the last, and made but few concessions in style to modern theories, yet his paintings generally found purchasers. He was naturally very proud of his reminiscences of Goethe. Nothing gives a clearer idea of the great poet's personality than the impression he made on all who saw him in their childhood, even though, like Hummel's wife, who survives him, they were only five years of age at the time.

THE Exhibition of Mr. Evert Moll's works which we mentioned last week does not, we find, open till next Tuesday, when the private view occurs at the Gallery of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours.

MARAT is to have his statue, which was decided upon eight years ago by the "Radical Socialiste" majority of the Paris Conseil Municipal, not without opposition. The commission was given to M. Jean Baffier, who has represented Marat in the act of expiring after the visit of Charlotte Corday.

ON Friday, the 22nd inst., the monument to celebrate the Battle of the Spurs in 1302 was set up on the plain of Groeninghe, now a public garden, at Courtrai. The memorial consists of an allegorical group representing the Maid of Flanders armed with the famous "goedendag," and the Lion of Flanders crouching at her feet. The work is cast in bronze, and the statue of the Maid is 23 ft. high. The sculptor, M. Devreese, is well known in Belgium for the excellence of his work, and appropriately was born at Courtrai, which celebrated the six hundredth anniversary of the great victory of the communes four years ago, and then determined on erecting a suitable memorial, which has now been done.

THE July number of *The Antiquary* will contain, among others, the following articles: 'The Discoveries of Roman Remains at Sicklesmere and Villa Faustini,' by Mr. G. Basil Barham; 'Buckfast Abbey: the Phoenix of the West' (illustrated), by Miss Olive Katherine Parr; 'Walter de Langton and the Bishop's Dam,' by Mr. K. A. Patmore; 'An Ancient Monument Chest at Dersingham, Norfolk' (illustrated), by Mr. George Bailey; and the concluding part of 'Robin Hood,' by Sir Edward Brabrook.

THE forthcoming number of *The Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist* will contain articles on 'Lastingham Relics,' by Mr. J. Charles Wall; 'Christian Carthage,' by Miss Sophia Beale; 'Lights of other Days,' by Mr. F. R. Coles; and 'Sprott's Illustrated Chronicle,' by Mr. W. Heneage Legge.

THE Congress of Archaeological Societies, to be held at Burlington House on Wednesday next, will have a full programme. Besides the Report of the Committee for recording Earthworks, which is said to be of an interesting character, Dr. Haverfield will call attention to the Ordnance Survey in its relation to archaeology. There will also be a Report from the Committee for promoting the Study of Court Rolls, appointed last year on the motion of Garter King-of-Arms. The honorary secretary will propose a scheme for recording churchyard inscriptions; and after lunch Dr. Haverfield

will speak on 'The Abuse of the Term Late-Celtic.'

THE Glasgow Archæological Society will celebrate its jubilee in November next. During the last twenty-five years in particular it has done good work in varied departments of research, and notably by the publication of its Committee's elaborate Report on researches on the line of the Antonine Wall; its membership is only second in Scotland to that of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—*The Handel Festival.*

THIS festival has happened in the midst of a busy season, and one in which the part played by Handel is, as usual, very small. Apart, indeed, from 'The Messiah' (the popularity of which does not depend solely upon its musical merits), the famous *Largo*, the so-called 'Harmonious Blacksmith' Variations, and a few songs from the operas and oratorios, the art-work of Handel is almost unknown to the general public. It is well, therefore, that, at any rate once in three years, the Crystal Palace festival and the handwriting, as it were, on the wall of the Great Transept of the titles of Handel's many oratorios should remind the musical world of a genius that produced many great works. The composer had to live by his art, and hence made concessions to convention and to public taste, yet in spite of these things he immortalized his name.

The first day on Tuesday began, as usual, with 'The Messiah,' of which an impressive performance was given. The singing of the choir in "And the glory of the Lord" was heavy, and seemed to foreshadow a mechanical kind of rendering. But there soon came a change, and with it proof that Dr. F. H. Cowen must have taken great pains at rehearsals in the matter of declamation of words and lights and shades, so as to reveal the meaning and expressive character of the music. We would especially note the singing of "For unto us a Child is born," "All we like sheep," "Surely He hath borne our griefs," and the "Hallelujah." The tone of the choir is extremely fine, and the voices are fairly well balanced; it only needed a little more power and will on the part of the sopranos to enable us to say "thoroughly well." The soloists were Mesdames Albani and Ada Crossley, and Messrs. Ben Davies and Santley, the last named, who has been connected with the festivals for over forty years, singing with wonderful vigour. Of such artists the names suffice. Dr. Cowen had good reason to be satisfied with the result of the first day.

QUEEN'S HALL.—*Vienna Philharmonic Society.*

THE first of the three concerts by the Vienna Philharmonic Society took place at Queen's Hall on Tuesday evening.

The programme opened with the 'Meister-singer' Overture. Then came Mozart's Symphony in G minor, in which the excellence of the band and the skill of the conductor, Herr Franz Schalk, were fully made manifest. The tempo of the first movement was somewhat hurried, and this, together with the massive tone from the large body of instrumentalists, 117 in number, naturally interfered somewhat with the delicacy and plaintive charm of the music. The next number was the Overture to Weber's 'Oberon,' which was given with magnificent dash and brilliancy. Many fine performances of this overture have been heard in Queen's Hall, but this one was the most exciting. The audience tried hard to get it repeated, but Herr Schalk resisted the request, being probably well aware that a second impression, following so closely, was not likely to be so strong as the first.

Sir Edward Elgar's Orchestral Variations were played, and with great—we would almost say too much—attention to detail. The concert ended with Beethoven's Symphony in C minor, but in the rendering of it an element of sensationalism made itself felt which did not quite become the work; as when a great pianist in interpreting Beethoven's 'Waldstein' or 'Appassionata' Sonata gives prominence, however slight it may be, to the letter of the music. The performance of the symphony, in any case, was striking, and created a strong impression.

QUEEN'S HALL.—*British-Canadian Festival Concert.*

THE British-Canadian Festival Concert at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening was very successful. Sir Alexander Mackenzie conducted his genial and clever 'Britannia' Overture and effective 'Canadian' Rhapsody, Sir Charles Stanford his fine second 'Irish' Rhapsody, Sir Hubert Parry his dignified choral setting of 'Blest Pair of Sirens,' and Dr. Cowen his fanciful and delicately scored 'Butterfly's Ball' Overture. Then came Dr. C. A. E. Harriss's choral idyll 'Pan,' the music of which, by reason of its simplicity and tunefulness, makes a ready appeal. The composer, too, keeps the best for the last. The baritone solo "Dear voice, O sweet," is quaint and taking, while the final chorus shows taste and skill. The soloists were Mlle. Donalda, Miss Ida Kahn, and Messrs. J. Harrison and Ffrangcon Davies. Sir Edward Elgar was unable, through an accident to his knee, to appear and conduct his 'Cockaigne' Overture, but Sir A. Mackenzie kindly took his place.

The London Symphony Orchestra was engaged, and there was a choir of two hundred and fifty voices.

Elson's Music Dictionary. (Boston, U.S., Oliver Ditson Company.)—Compilers of dictionaries feel it their duty to justify their adding to the number. The addition to foreign words of an English phonetic spelling, which will be found useful to the average teacher, and the inclusion of some of the

most recent details of research, are two of the important reasons assigned. One feature, however, is not named: the volume contains many terms, especially foreign ones, not usually found in musical dictionaries. It has been carefully compiled. Under 'Concerto' the Litolf pianoforte concerto, with its four movements, might, however, have been mentioned. *Con sordini* is said to be used in pianoforte music, but *con sordino* is noted in connexion with string instruments only; yet both terms were formerly used in pianoforte music. The definition, "The double fugue is two fugues going on at the same time; that is, it presents two subjects and two answers, worked up simultaneously," is neither clear nor elegantly expressed. For the most part, however, this handy dictionary deserves commendation.

Modern Harmony in its Theory and Practice. By Arthur Foote and Walter R. Spalding. (Leipzig, A. P. Schmidt.)—When a rule is constantly broken by one great composer after another, the fault is probably in the rule, not in the composers. This opinion was expressed by Prof. Prout in the first edition of his 'Harmony,' and the authors of the work under notice agree with him. At the present day, indeed, when composers are making such bold harmonic experiments, defying rules to which the classical composers for the most part conformed, any system of harmony, if it is not to be very short-lived, must recognize, even if it cannot fully explain, what is taking place. Our authors accordingly quote not only the classics but also Tchaikowsky, César Franck, Sir Edward Elgar, and that arch-innovator Debussy.

We agree with the statement that chords of the 9th, 11th, and 13th for the most part "enter by means of suspensions, appoggiaturas, and passing or auxiliary tones." But when the student is told that "the feeling of musicians has become so modified of late years that we may practically say that no cross relation is forbidden that sounds tolerably well," we think that he ought to be also informed as to what, in the opinion of experienced musicians, does sound "tolerably well." It might also, we think, have been pointed out that the effect of any particular false relation depends largely upon rate, accent, and phrasing—also, in orchestral music, upon colour. The chapter on 'Old Modes,' though short, is instructive and interesting; and the same, in fact, may be said of the whole book. There is one foot-note we should like to have seen differently worded; it occurs on p. 15. Although Bach's 'Well-Tempered Clavichord' is often, as therein stated, referred to as the 'Forty-Eight Preludes and Fugues,' the title belongs strictly only to the first twenty-four.

Musical Gossip.

YESTERDAY week M. André Messager's ballet, 'Les Deux Pigeons,' was produced at Covent Garden, and thus was revived a form of entertainment which at the opera-house was once very popular. The story of M. Messager's ballet is simple, and the music is tasteful and pleasingly scored. It is very dainty, and everything seems to have come from the composer's pen without effort. The piece was effectively staged, and Mlle. Boni, the chief dancer, displayed skill and grace. M. Messager conducted.

On Monday a fine performance was given of Verdi's 'Aida.' Madame Giachetti's impersonation of the heroine was excellent, her singing, however, being unfortunately marred by the shrill quality of her high notes.

Madame Kirkby Lunn as Amneris was at her very best, while Signor Caruso proved a superb Radames both in figure and in voice.

SIR EDWARD ELGAR's continuation of 'The Apostles' is entitled 'The Kingdom,' and after its production at the Birmingham Festival in October it will be performed on November 17th, for the first time in London, by the Alexandra Palace Choral and Orchestral Society, under the direction of Mr. Allen Gill.

We regret to record the death on Monday last, after a very brief illness, of Mr. Stephen Samuel Stratton, who had held the post of musical critic on *The Birmingham Daily Post* from 1877 down to the day of his death. In 1897, jointly with Mr. James D. Brown, he published the 'British Musical Biography,' a work which, though not altogether free from error, was the outcome of long and patient research. Mr. Stratton wrote 'Mendelssohn' for Dent's 'Master Musicians' series, also a book entitled 'Musical Curiosities.'

THE London Symphony Orchestra will begin a third series of ten concerts on November 5th, all of which will be conducted by Dr. Hans Richter.

DR. SAINT-SAËNS will take part in Mr. Joseph Hollman's forthcoming concert, and this will be the composer-pianist's only appearance in London this season.

DR. W. H. CUMMINGS, who possesses the original book of words of John Barnett's 'The Mountain Sylph,' kindly informs us that the "Miss Novello" mentioned in the notice in the Monthly Supplement of *The Musical Library* for October, 1834, was not, as we supposed, Miss Clara Novello, but her sister Cecilia.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MON.—SAT.	Royal Opera, Covent Garden.
MON.	Miss Violet Morris's Vocal Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
—	Miss M. Curtis's Vocal Recital, 3.30, Steinway Hall.
—	Mr. F. Macmillan's Violin Recital, 8.30, Queen's Hall.
TUES.	Miss Allison Fernie's Vocal Recital, 3.15, Aeolian Hall.
—	Miss J. Raunay and Mr. H. Bauer's Vocal and Pianoforte Recital, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.
—	Orchestral Concert (Patrons' Fund), 8.15, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Miss E. Leginska's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
—	Opera Performance, 'Mountain Sylph,' 7.30, Guildhall School of Music.
—	Audrey Chapman Orchestra, 8, Bechstein Hall.
THURS.	Opera Performance, 7.30, Guildhall School of Music.
SAT.	Miss Minnie Tracey's Vocal Recital, 3.30, Aeolian Hall.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

ON its production at the Coronet Theatre, with Madame Hading in the rôle of Henriette de Chonzé (created at the Gymnase by Madame Simone Le Bargy), 'Le Retour de Jérusalem' of M. Maurice Donnay, far from exciting any such turmoil as was caused by the first production, was received with equanimity that savoured of indifference. The racial question with which it deals does not greatly exercise the English public, and the *aventure purement passionnelle* on which, in spite of the author's protest, it rests, fails to stimulate greatly. A superb performance by Madame Hading extorted admiration, but the character was less suited to the actress than others in which she has appeared, the latest of which is Frou-Frou.

'THE MACLEANS OF BAIRNESS' having failed to realize expectations, the season of Mrs. Patrick Campbell at the Criterion has concluded, and the theatre is temporarily closed.

THE run at His Majesty's of 'Colonel Newcome' will end on July 7th, and Mr. Tree will then take a holiday previous to returning to superintend the rehearsals of

'The Winter's Tale,' the production of which, with Miss Terry as Hermione, is fixed for September 1st. A couple of days later Mr. Tree will start on a country tour with 'Colonel Newcome,' 'Business is Business,' and 'The Man who Was.'

So great is the success at the St. James's of Mr. Pinero's comedy 'His House in Order' that the theatre will remain open through the holiday season.

MR. WILLARD has secured, by arrangement with Mr. Tree, the American rights of 'Colonel Newcome,' in which during the coming season he will appear in the United States and in Canada.

IN October next Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore will reappear at the Criterion in 'The Mollusc,' a three-act comedy by Mr. Hubert Henry Davies.

MISS ELLIS JEFFREYS and her husband Mr. Herbert Sleath are likely to be numbered among London managers, and have secured plays from Mr. Brandon Thomas and Mr. Somerset Maugham.

DURING their autumn tour Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson will produce tentatively a romantic drama by Messrs. R. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland, the scene of which is laid in the American colonies in Stuart times, and also a four-act work by a new dramatist, Mr. Harry Langley Lander.

ON August 27th Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott will begin at Manchester in 'The Merchant of Venice' (in which they will be seen for the first time) a country tour, which will preface their departure in October for America.

A REAPPEARANCE at the Waldorf is promised of Mr. Henry Dixey, who some years ago created a favourable impression at the Gaiety.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. W. S.—J. M. K.—J. L.—M. W. B.—Received.

M. W. B.—Next week.

T. R. H. and others.—Too late for notice now.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

We cannot undertake to reply to inquiries concerning the appearance of reviews of books.

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